

GRAMMATICAL
OBSERVATIONS
ON THE

English Language,

Drawn up particularly

With a VIEW to PRACTICE.

Sermo constat ratione, vetustate, auctoritate, consuetudine. — Consuetudo verò, certissima loquendi magistra: — non, si quid vitiosè multis infederit, pro regulâ sermonis accipiendum erit. — Consuetudinem sermonis, vocabo consensum eruditorum.

QUINCTIL. INSTIT.

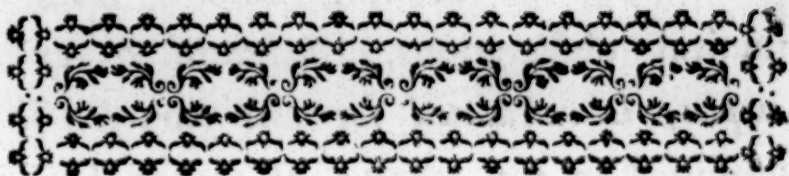
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LONDON:

Printed for J. ROBINSON, Bookseller to Her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of WALES, in New Bond-Street.

M,DCC,LXVI.





THE
P R E F A C E.


 NE reason perhaps, why, in the
 general method of education, so
 little attention is paid to the
 English Language, is the want of a
 proper Introduction to it; a book so
 accommodated, both in size and substance,
 to the ordinary business of instruction, as
 not to give too much trouble to the teacher,
 or to the youth under his care.

How far the following system of grammatical observations, illustrated by examples, is calculated for this purpose, is submitted to the candour of the public.

It is divided into four parts. The first takes notice of the letters, their names and sounds, with the variations of those sounds, according to the varied position of the letters.

The second considers words, or the parts of speech, their different natures, and the changes they suffer for the purposes of language.

*The third treats of the construction of the several parts, their conformity, each to other, in certain respects, and their
seeming*

The PREFACE. v

seeming influence in others, in the various phrases and forms of expression.

The fourth considers accent, emphasis, and pauses.

In consulting the ease and convenience of the learner, the author has deviated, in some degree, from the plan of those other writers, who have of late obliged the world with their thoughts on the subject.

In the first place, he has given a few forms of declining an english noun, that, such as should study the learned languages, might not be at a loss to know, what there is in english to answer to case, or, in other words, to the relations of nouns as they are expressed in Latin.

2dly,

2dly, *He was desirous to have adapted his forms of verbal inflections to the common arrangement of the tenses into moods; but, finding no just ground for such a distinction in english, he has presented the reader with what appeared to him a clear and intire specimen of them. This he was enabled to do by placing the auxiliaries, which have so great a share in our language, apart by themselves; and then shewing, in the several forms of the tenses, how these helping verbs are applied to the theme, and to the active and passive participles, to form the tenses commonly so called.*

3dly, *He has endeavoured to determine, upon what occasions the present and past simple tenses, have, and have not, personal variation.*

Lastly,

The P R E F A C E.

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Lastly, As to the syntax, or constructive part of language, the reader will find it carried to an unusual length; a part which appeared very necessary, tho' generally in a great measure, if not intirely omitted. But indeed, it is not easy to conceive, how it was possible to have exhibited any thing like a regular syntax, without having prepared for it, by a declension of substantives.

But it has been said, "the english substantive has but one variation of case". If we take case strictly for a change of termination, it is true; but the english noun has the same relations to express as other nouns, and tho' it doth this by a change of preposition, and not of termination; yet the one mode of variation is as necessary to be known as the other.

It

It has likewise been alledged, " that all the possible variations of the original form of the verb are not above six or seven". This too may be allowed: but, if the variations, which in other languages principally affect the original form, are supplied by a number of auxiliaries and their respective changes in ours, doth this lessen the variation, or render the language more simple and easy?

Again, it has been urged, " that our language has so little inflection, that it's construction neither requires nor admits many rules". But this has been already answered, so far as the noun and verb are concerned, which are the principal parts of language.



GRAMMATICAL
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ON THE
English Language.



LANGUAGE is the expression of our
thoughts by words.
L Grammar is the art of expressing our
thoughts properly.

Propriety is founded in the most approved and
established usage.

The Subject of Grammar.

The subject of grammar are *letters, words, construction, and pronunciation.*

L E T T E R S.

Letters, the elements of language, are in English
twenty-six, *viz.*

A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M,
N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

B

Or,

Or, a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z.

They are divided into vowels and consonants.

The vowels are a, e, i, o, u, y; the consonants b, c, d, &c.

A vowel notes a perfect sound, a consonant an imperfect one.

V O W E L S.

Each vowel has several sounds, from one of which it takes its name, y excepted, which in effect is the same as *i*.

This change of sound in the vowel-letters is inconvenient in learning to read. Had each vowel been limited to a certain sound, and its name precisely the same as that sound; we should have needed only to have learnt the names, to have known the sounds too: as it is, tho' a child knows his letters ever so well, he is yet at a loss occasionally for their sounds, till long experience teach him, what effect each letter has in its various connections. In this view the following observations upon the vowel-sounds may perhaps be of some use.

The sound of vowels with consonants.

A.

a, joined to a consonant, has its name-sound in such words as *fate*, *nation*, &c. This sound
is

is peculiarly applied to it by the english.—It has a sound called *open* in *father*, *rather*, &c.—the same sound, but quicker, in *fat*, *rat*, &c.—a sound called *broad* in *fall*, *talk*, &c.

E.

e has its name-sound in such words as *he*, *me*, *mede*, *impede*, &c. This sound is peculiarly applied to *e* by the english.—It has a like sound, but quicker, in *jewel*, *learned*, &c.—It has the sound of *a* english in *serge*, *there*, &c.—of *a* english pronounced quick in *fed*, *well*, *met*, *commend*, &c.—of open *a* short in *Derby*, *Berkshire*, &c.

e makes no syllable at the end of words ; as *time*, *rise*, &c. except in monosyllables ; such as *the*, *she*, &c. and such foreign words as *epitome*, *Phebe*, &c. yet it lengthens the syllable ; as *fin*, *fine* ; *ton*, *tone*, &c. except in *live*, *glove*, *gone*, &c.

e after *r* at the end of a word is heard before it ; as *here*, *acre*, *sceptre*, &c. after *l* in like circumstance scarce heard at all ; as, *able*, *circle*, *ladle*, &c.

I.

i has its name-sound in such words as *pine*, *time*, *mice*, *mind*, &c. * The application of this sound

B 2

to

* This application of the name-sounds to *a*, *e*, and *i*, particularly, is so peculiar to the English, that it occasions a difficulty to foreigners who would learn our language, and to us in learning theirs ; and it has such
an

to *i* is likewise peculiar to the english—it has the sound of *e* english in words derived from the french ; as, *pique*, *machine*, &c.—the same sound, but quicker, in *pin*, *pick*, *fit*, *fill*, &c.

O.

o has its name sound in *note*, *home*, *comb*, &c.—a sound nearly the same, but shorter, in *not*, *got*, *fop*, &c.—The effect of *oo* in *do*, *move*, *tomb*, &c.—of *oo* quick in *some*, *come*, &c.—the sound of *e* english short in *women*.

U.

u has its name-sound in *acute*, *lute*, &c.—the sound of *oo* short in *cut*, *but*, *up*, &c.—that of *a* english short in *bury*,—of *e* english short in *business*.

Y.

y has no other sounds than those of *i* ; it had better, therefore, have been called *i*, or *i* greek, as in french, retaining its form to distinguish it ; for the name of every letter ought to be the same as its sound.

y is found at the end of words ; as, *thy*,—before an *i* ; as, *dying*—and instead of *u* in words derived from the greek ; as, *abyss*.

The

an effect upon words in speech, that an englishman and a foreigner conversing together in latin, would have some difficulty to understand one another, tho' each should speak the language with ease and propriety.

The sound of two or more vowels together.

aa are pronounced as *a* english in *Aaron*—as *a* open quick in *Isaac*.

ai and *ay* have the sound of *a* english in *pain*, *play*, &c.

au and *aw* have the sound of *a* broad in *taught*, *flaw*, &c.

ea are both heard in *bear*—sound as *a* english in *bear*—as *e* long in *read*, in the present tense—as *a* english short in *read*, in the past.—as *a* open, but short, in *heart*.

ee as *e* long in *seed*—as *e* short in *breech*.

ei and *ey* as *e* long in *receive*, *key*—as *a* english in *eight*, *grey*, &c.

eo have the sound of *a* english short in *leopard*—of *e* english in *people*.

eu and *ew* sound as *u* in *Eubulus*, *flew*, &c.

eau as *u* in *beauty*—as *o* in *beau*, and other French words.

ie sound as *e* english in *piece*, *brief*—as *a* english short in *friend*—the *i* is scarce heard in *pierce*, *fierce*, &c.

ieu sound as *u* in *lieu*; in *lieutenant* the *u* takes the sound of *v*.

oa are both heard in *roar*, *loan*, &c.

oe sound as *e* english in *oeconomy*—as *o* in *foe*, &c.

oi and *oy* are both heard in *toil*, *voice*; *joy*, *boy*.

oo are expressed in *cooing* and *hoot*; they are pronounced much quicker in *foot*, *foot*, *good*, &c.

ou are both heard in *out*, *gout*—have the effect of *o* long in *court*—of *oo* in *amour*, *tour*—of *o* short in *cough*—of *oo* short in *rough*—of *oo* short in *virtuous*.

ow are both heard in *sow*, the noun ; but in the verb *sow*, the *w* is silent.

u before *a*, *e*, *i*, *o* and *y*, has the sound of *oo* quick, as *quart*, *quell*, *quilt*, *quote*, *guy*—*u* is not heard before *a* in *guard*, nor before *e*, *i* and *y* ; as *guess*, *guile*, *guy* ; it serves however in these last to harden the *g*.

ue at the end of a word make no syllable, but lengthen the sound of the foregoing vowel ; as *rogue*, *Prague* ; in some words not even that ; as, *harangue*.

ui are both heard in *quit*, *languish*, *distinguish*—have the sound of *i* english in *guide*—of *u* english in *suit*, *juice*, &c.

CONSONANTS.

Consonants are such letters as are not easily founded without a vowel. They are of great use however in varying the vowel-sounds.

The *names* of the consonants are *be*, *ce*, *de*, &c.

The *sounds* of the consonants only *b'*, *c'*, *d'*, &c. or, *'b*, *'c*, *'d*, &c. according as they come before or after a vowel.

This difference in the name and sound of the consonants is a fresh difficulty in the way of the young reader. For the consequence of it is, that he must call his letters one way and sound them another, and instead of being helped to the sound of a syllable by the names of the letters which compose it, he is sure to be misled by foreign and
superfluous

superfluous sounds: thus, *a en de* convey no sound to an untaught ear, but that of *a en de*; nor do *te aitch e* lead to any other than that of *te aitch e*; till frequent repetition has formed a habit of compounding the pure sounds of these letters, and of calling them *and* and *the*. And, what a deal of time and pains is necessary to form habits of this kind in regard to the various sounds in language!

Suppose then that in spelling, *i. e.* in first naming the letters of a syllable, and then putting them together to form a single sound, instead of the common names of the consonants (and even of the vowels as often as the sound of any one varies from its name) we should venture to give them, as near as possible, the precise sound they have in such syllable; would not this lead more directly and infallibly to the true sounds of words? Would not for example, *o'f* give you the sound of *of*; *th'* (sounded together as in the word) *'y* of *thy*; and *t'o* of *to*, much sooner than *o ef*, *te aitch wy*, and *te o*? The very naming of the letters in this way is a kind of sounding of syllables, and to be ready at the sounding of syllables is to read. But this by the bye.

Remarks on the Consonants.

B.

b is not heard before *t* in the same syllable; as *debt*, *doubt*—nor after *m*; as, *lamb*, *dumb*—it serves only to lengthen the syllable in *climb*, *womb*, &c. —it sounds as *t* in *subtile*.

c is

C.

c is soft before *e*, *i*, and *y*; as, *cell*, *circle*, *cypher*; —hard before *a*, *o*, and *u*; as, *can*, *cone*, *cull* — *ch* found hard in words derived from the greek; as, *chymist*—like *tch* in english words; as, *chat*, *church*—like *sh* in french words; as, *machine*, *chaise*, *chamade*.—*c* is not heard in *verdict*, *viſuals*; nor *ch* in *ſchedule*, *ſchiſm*.

D.

d is not heard in *ribband*, *handſome*, &c.

F.

ph is uſed inſtead of *f* in words derived from the greek; as *phyſic*, *Philip*, *Chriſtopher*, &c.

G.

The ſound of *g* before *e* is generally ſoft; as, *gelly*—before *i* generally hard; as, *giddy*—before *a*, *o*, *u*, hard; as, *gap*, *gone*, *gun*.

g before *n* at the beginning of words is ſcarce heard; as, *gnat*; at the end helps to lengthen the ſyllable; as, *ſign*—*g* after *n* is hard; as *ſing*, *among*.

gh at the beginning of a word have the ſound of *g* hard; as, *ghoſt*—at the end they lengthen a ſingle vowel; as, *high*, *Hugh*:—*ugh* ſound as *ff* in *cough*, *laugh*; and are quite ſilent in *though*, *dough*.

H.

b is generally an aſperate or rough breathing;

as, *hind, horse, &c.* but there are some exceptions ;
as, *herb, honest, heir, honour, humble, humour, hostler.*

J.

j is sounded like soft *g* ; as *join, juncture.*

K.

k is silent before *n* ; as *knife*—and after *c* at the end of words ; as, *musick* : Indeed few people now write *k* after *c* in words derived from the latin.

L.

Monosyllables ending in *l* have *l* doubled ; as, *will, shall, &c.* words of several syllables end with one *l* ; as, *excel* ; yet if a syllable follows the *l* it becomes double ; as, *excellence*—*l* is often silent in the middle of words ; as, *half, calf, psalmist*, only lengthening the syllable : in *salmon* it has the effect of *m*.

M. and N.

m and *n* have nothing remarkable ; only *n* is not heard after *l* or *m* in the same syllable ; as, *kiln, autumn, hymn, solemn, condemn.*

P.

p is not heard before *s* ; as, *psalm* ; or *t* ; as, *receipt, accompt, &c.* except in *prompt.*

Q.

q is always followed by *u* ; as, *quell, queen ;*
and

and in words derived from the french they have the effect of *k* nearly ; as *risque*, *coquette*.

R.

r is a rough snarling letter ; as, *sirrab*—after *r*, *h* is silent ; as *rhetoric*.

S.

s is a hissing letter ; as, *sigh*, *Sicily*—betwixt two vowels, and at the end of words, it has a sound like *z* ; as *pleasure*, *leisure*, *rise* the verb, *is*, *war*, &c. except *this*, *thus*, *rise* the noun, &c. *s*, not beginning a syllable, is silent before *l*, *n*, and *c* ; as, *isle*, *demesne*, *viscount*.

s, before *u*, is frequently pronounced as *sh* ; as, *sure*, *sugar*, *issue*, &c.

T.

ti, before a vowel are generally pronounced as *sh* ; as, *nation*, *patience*, &c. except in such words as *pitied*, *mightier*, *bastion*, *question*, &c.

V.

v has a near affinity to *f* ; hence *of* is generally pronounced *ov* — a like relation has *p* to *b*.

W.

The sound of *w* is that of *oo* as pronounced in *rood* ; and perhaps it were better called *oo* ; as, *oo ood*, *wood* ; *oo ish*, *wish* ; *oo ill*, *will*.

x has

X.

x has the effect of *cs*; as *box*—and of *gs*; as, *example*.

Y.

y after a consonant is considered as a vowel; as, *by*, *my*, &c.—before a vowel, as a consonant; as, *ye*, *yesterday*, &c.

Z.

z, or *s* hard, has one of the sounds of *s*; as, *frize*: which is pronounced as *rise*, *premise*, &c.

A vowel of itself, or united with one or more letters, forms a *syllable*; one or more syllables a *word*; and several words a *sentence*.

To *spell* is to name the letters, in order to catch the sound formed by them, syllable by syllable, till you find the several sounds in each word.

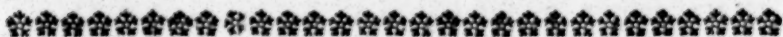
In *writing*, it is to express each word in letters, syllable by syllable, till you have gone thro' the whole.

Words are the most easily and naturally *divided* by attending to the distinct sounds in each.

Reading is the giving to every word the just sound it is intended to express.

Reading, methinks, would be no great difficulty, even in the ordinary way of naming and sounding of the letters, provided the sounds of the various syllables, or combinations of letters were made familiar to the ear of a child, before he were troubled with any thing in the shape of a book; at least before he were advanced farther than his alphabet.

alphabet. This may very easily be done by way of diversion, if care be taken not to give him too much at once. He will be pleased, at first, with repeating after you a, b, ab; e, b, eb, &c. and in a little time, as the habit forms, with sounding of himself the syllables you shall spell to him. In this manner, by the time he knows his letters well (and he should not procede, till he do know them perfectly) he will be able to give you their sounds in syllables, *i. e.* he will almost read, and consequently go on with pleasure.



W O R D S.

A *Word* is a *literal sign* of some idea.

Words, the constituent parts of language, are of seven sorts, *viz. noun, adjective, verb, adverb, conjunction, preposition, interjection.*

A *noun* is the *name* of any thing whatsoever; as, *pen, ink, paper.*

An *adjective* expresses the *mode* or *quality* of a thing; as, a *good pen—soft ink—fine paper.*

A *verb* *affirms* somewhat of a thing; as, *The rose is sweet—The sun shines.*

An *adverb* expresses some *circumstance*; as, *Master behaved prettily.*

A con-

A *conjunction* connects words, and the parts of a period ; as, *Miss sung, and played, and charmed every body ; yet seemed to have no opinion of herself.*

A *preposition* marks the relation of one word to another ; as, *What is the business of man in this world ?*

An *interjection* expresses some affection of the mind ; as, *oh ! alas !*

N O U N.

Noun is but another word for the *name* of a person or thing ; therefore all names of things or persons are nouns.

In the use of a noun, or substantive, as it is called, *four* things should be attended to, *article, number, gender and case.*

Articles are little words prefixed to a noun to restrain its meaning. In english they are *an* and *the*. The former is called the *indefinite*, the latter the *definite* article.*

Every noun has not an article before it : proper names, *i. e.* names of persons and places take no article ; as, *John, Ann, Bath, London* : common names have, and have not, according to the extent of their meaning ; for instance, a noun that signifies a whole kind has none ; as, *Do you speak of fish or fowl ?* On the contrary, a particular noun becomes such by means of the article prefixed : as, *a fish, the fowl*. To shew how general names become less extensive in signification : The word *man* is a general name, and takes in the whole species ;

C

as,

* Instead of *an* we use *a* before all consonants, except silent *b*.

as, *man is mortal*, *i. e.* the whole human kind: prefix *a*, and the same word gives you the idea of a particular person, without specifying whom; as, *Is it lawful for a man*—any man whatsoever? If *the* is applied, the word is yet more particular, and confined to an individual in a definite sense; as, *I honour the king*; meaning the king of England.

As nouns have two endings to express number, they are said to have *two numbers*, a singular and a plural number: a singular, so called from its signifying one; a plural, so called from its signifying more than one.

Singulars become plurals by annexing *s* or *es*; as *hand, hands*; *box, boxes*, &c.*

The following are excepted; *man, men*; *woman, women*; *brother, brethren and brothers*; *child, children*; *cow, cows and kine*; *tooth, teeth*; *mouse, mice*; *louse, lice*; *goose, geese*; *foot, feet*; *die, dice*; *penny, pence*; *half, halves*; *calf, calves*; *leaf, leaves*; *loaf, loaves*; *sheaf, sheaves*, &c. These are the same in both numbers; *sheep, sheep*; *deer, deer*, &c. These have no plural; *pitch, —*; *tar, —*; *flax, —*; *hemp, —*; *gold, —*; *silver, —*; *pride, —*; *hamility*, &c. These again have no singular, —, *bellows*; —, *scissars*; —, *lungs*; *bowels*, &c.

Gender is but another word for *sex*. This the noun expresses either by varying its ending; as, *shepherd, shepherdess*; *heir, heiress*, &c. or by terms intirely different; as *boy, girl*; *he, she, it*, &c.

Nouns

* If the singular ends in *y*, *y* changes to *ie* in the plural, as *enemy—enemies*.

Nouns that signify males are of the masculine gender; such as signify females, feminine; and such as denote neither male nor female, neuter, *i. e.* of no gender.

According to this distinction, things inanimate, and even animate creatures, whose sex is not known, should, one would think, be considered as neuter; yet, we say of a ship, *She sails well*;—*She cannot live in such a sea*; without regard to its neutrality; and of a hare, *She doubles*; *She makes a fine course*; without regard to sex. So arbitrary is *custom*, whose authority is not to be disputed.

By the word *case* is generally meant *a change of termination* in nouns; but as the english noun does not express its *relations* in this manner, but by a change of little particles called prepositions; *case* may be defined *a change of preposition*, to denote the relations of a noun.

The english noun, strictly speaking, has no case; *i. e.* no change of termination and the pronoun very little, to express their several relations. Instead of changing their ending, they make use of prepositions, as in the French language: But the relations, thus expressed, serving all the purposes of cases, may be considered as such, and are so considered in the following declensions.

Nouns have *six cases*; the *nominative*, the *genitive*, the *dative*, the *accusative*, the *vocative*, and the *ablative*.

The *nominative* case is the *subject* of the verb ; as, *The day dawns*.*

The *genitive* is expressed by *of* ; as, *The goodness of God* ; or by *s* with an apostrophe ; as, *God's goodness*.

The *dative* by *to* or *for*, as, *I give it to you—I reserved it for you*.

The *accusative* is the *object* of the verb ; as, *Worth makes the man*.

The *vocative* is used in addressing with or without *o* ; as, *His praise, ye brooks, attune*.—

The *ablative* takes in the relations expressed by *in*, *with*, *by*, *from*, &c. as, *I received it from you—you got it in town*.

Declensions of nouns with and without an article.

Proper names are declined thus :

Singular.	Singular.
Nom. John	Nom. London
Gen. of John, or John's†	Gen. of London
Dat. to John	Dat. to London
Ac. John	Ac. London
Voc. O John, or John	Voc. O London
Ab. by John	Ab. by London

Com-

* Whatever answers to the question *who* or *what* before a verb, is called by grammarians the *subject* of the verb : whatever answers to the question *whom* or *what* after a verb, is called its *object*.—This last concerns only transitive verbs, which will be considered in their place.

† This *s* with an apostrophe seems to be a contraction of

Common names are declined, as follow :

Example of a noun taken in a general sense.

Singular.

Nom. man
Gen. of man
Dat. to man
Ac. man
Voc. O man
Ab. by man.

Example of the same noun taken in an indefinite sense.

Singular.

Nom. a man
Gen. of a man
Dat. to a man
Ac. a man
Voc. man
Ab. by a man

Plural.

Nom. men
Gen. of men
Dat. to men
Ac. men
Voc. men
Ab. by men

C 3

Ex-

of an antient termination of the genitive in *is* ; and it extends even to the plural number ; for we say *men's* lives, as well as *man's* life ; *children's* children, &c. But when the plurals are regularly formed in *s*, the *s* is not repeated, but the genitive plural is distinguished from the singular by the *place* of the apostrophe ; as,

*Then shall man's pride and dulness comprehend,
 His actions' passions', being's, use and end.*

Example of the same noun taken in a definite sense.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
<i>Nom.</i> the man	<i>Nom.</i> the men
<i>Gen.</i> of the man	<i>Gen.</i> of the men
<i>Dat.</i> to the man	<i>Dat.</i> to the men
<i>Ac.</i> the man	<i>Ac.</i> the men
<i>Ab.</i> by the man	<i>Ab.</i> by the men

Pronouns are so called from their *serving in the place of nouns*; thus, we say, *he* and *she* rather than repeat the name of a person, and *it* rather than repeat the name of a thing already mentioned.*

The pronoun is generally considered as a distinct part of speech, but such of them as are names fall properly under the head of nouns, the rest rank as adjectives.

Pronouns may be divided into *personal, possessive, relative, interrogative, definitive and distributive.*

Personal

* *The opening of this poem is taken up in giving an account of the subject, which, agreeable to the title, is ———, or a philosophical enquiry into his nature and end, his passions and pursuits. He then tells us with what design he wrote, viz.*

Here the pronoun *he* is not a representative of any substantive before expressed; consequently there is an inaccuracy.

The following sentence is likewise inaccurate, as having not only the noun but its pronoun too, as nominative to the verb. The turtles, *being amphibious, they feed on grass and weeds, as well in the water as on the land.*

Yet in asking questions we do sometimes use this form : The baptism of *John*, whence was it?—And the French do the same. *Le bapême de Jean d'où étoit-il ?*

Personal pronouns represent *personal nouns*, and are *I, thou, he, she, it; we, ye, or, you, they*. *I* is called the first, *thou* the second, and *he, she, it*, the third person singular; *we* the first, *ye* or *you* the second, and *they* the third person plural.

It, indeed, may be thought misplaced among pronouns personal, as representing things and not persons; but it is ever considered by the verb (if I may say so) as of the third person, as well as the noun it represents.

If a person speaks of himself, he says *I*; if of himself and another person or persons, *we*; if to one other person, he says *thou*, or rather *you*; if to several, *ye*, or rather *you*; if of one other person he says, *he* or *she*; if of a thing, *it*; and if of several persons or things, *they*.

Declensions of pronouns.

Singular.
Nom. I
Gen. of me
Dat. to me
Ac. me
Ab. from me

Plural.
Nom. we
Gen. of us
Dat. to us
Ac. us
Ab. from us

Singular

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>	
<i>Nom.</i>	<i>thou*</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	<i>ye*</i>
<i>Gen.</i>	<i>of thee</i>	<i>Gen.</i>	<i>of you</i>
<i>Dat.</i>	<i>to thee</i>	<i>Dat.</i>	<i>to you</i>
<i>Ac.</i>	<i>thee</i>	<i>Ac.</i>	<i>you</i>
<i>Voc.</i>	<i>O thou, or thou</i>	<i>Voc.</i>	<i>O ye, or ye</i>
<i>Ab.</i>	<i>from thee</i>	<i>Ab.</i>	<i>from you</i>
<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>	
<i>Nom.</i>	<i>he, she, it</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	<i>they</i>
<i>Gen.</i>	<i>of him, of her, of it</i>	<i>Gen.</i>	<i>of them</i>
<i>Dat.</i>	<i>to him, to her, to it</i>	<i>Dat.</i>	<i>to them</i>
<i>Ac.</i>	<i>him, her, it</i>	<i>Ac.</i>	<i>them</i>
<i>Ab.</i>	<i>from him, from her, from it</i>	<i>Ab.</i>	<i>from them</i>

Who, as a personal pronoun, might have been placed here ; but, as a relative, it takes place amongst relatives, and is there declined.

A D J E C T I V E.

The *adjective* serves to express some *mode* or *quality* of the noun ; and when joined with it, takes its article and preposition ; as, *a good man, of a good man, &c.*

The *adjective* suffers no change on account of the number, case, or gender of its substantive ; you say

* I have placed *thou* here, in the singular and *ye* in the plural, on account of *their* variation, rather than *you*, which is the same in all the cases of each number ; yet it must be owned that they are scarce used at all in conversation, except by people of a certain persuasion ; nor even in books, unless in such as are written upon grave and solemn subjects.

good man, good woman ; good men, good women ; of a good man, of a good woman, &c.

It only varies in comparifon, *i. e.* when one thing is compared with another of like quality; for instance, we say, *such a cloth is fine* ; then, comparing it with another of a worse sort, we say, *it is finer* ; and if with several, none of which comes up to it, *finest*.

The variation thus made from *fine*, to *finer* and *finest*, forms what are called *degrees of comparifon*, or the *positive, comparative, and superlative degree* of an adjective.

The comparative and superlative are formed from the positive by adding *er* and *est* ; except the adjective end in *e* mute, which is not repeated ; or in *y*, which changes into *i*.

Another way of forming the degrees of comparifon, is by prefixing *more* and *most* to the positive; thus, *fine, more fine, most fine*.

Either of these ways, may, in most cases, be used with pretty much the same propriety ; we say, *such a case is hard* ; comparing it with some other, *I have known a harder case, or a more hard case* ; we say likewise, *it is a most hard case*, and, *it is the hardest case in the world*.

But there are some adjectives, so very harsh in their composition, as to render the comparifon by *more* and *most*, in a manner necessary. Such are *extraordinary, particular, warlike, &c.* And we therefore say, *more and most extraordinary, &c.* Such
are

are also participles in *ing* ; for which reason we say *more knowing*, and *most knowing*, and so in other instances.

There are also a few adjectives very irregular in their formation ;* and, yet, as custom has established their use, they make a part of the language ; as, *good, better, best ; bad, worse, worst ; little, less, least ;*† *many and much, more, most ;* nay, it would be absurd to form them otherwise. No one, except he chose to be laughed at, would say, *Wisdom is gooder*, or *wisdom is more good* ; but *wisdom is better than riches*.

Pronouns resumed.

Possessive pronouns are such as denote *possession* ; as, *my, our ; thy, your ; his, her* (*its* is rather the genitive of *it*) *their* ; which are joined to substantives ; as, *This is his house.*—*mine, ours ; thine, yours ; his, hers, its, theirs ;* which are used without substantives ; as, *This is mine ; it is not yours.*‡

The

* This irregularity is not peculiar to the English language.

Major, minor, senior, junior, prior, and a few others are comparatives adopted from the Latin.

† *Great inconveniences we cannot even here avoid but by submitting to lesser*. If a comparative ought to have been used at all in opposition to *great*, *less* is of better authority ; *lesser* is a double comparative.

‡ *Tho' my and our, thy and your, &c.* may be considered as singular and plural, in regard to the number of persons implied

The *relative* is so called from its *referring* to some noun or pronoun going before, and thence called its *antecedent*.

Who is of both numbers, and declined thus;

Singular and Plural.

Nom. who

Gen. of whom or whose *

Dat. to whom

Ac. whom

Ab. with whom

Which and *that* are likewise of both numbers and invariable; that is to say, they don't change their ending.

The *interrogative* is so called from its being used in *asking questions*: hence *who* and *which*, when so used, are of this name. *What* is of both numbers without variation.

Definitives are so called from their *defining* and limiting the extent of the nouns which they represent; such are, *this*, *that*; *the one*, *the other*.

This

implied in them; yet they are each equally applicable to singular and plural nouns; as *my house*, *my houses*, &c. The same may be said of *mine* and *ours*, *thine* and *yours*, in regard to the substantives understood in the use of them.

* Some perhaps may chuse to call *whose* an adjective, rather than the possessive case of *who*, as we find *cnjus*, in Latin, sometimes considered.

This refers to the person, thing or part of a period which is nearest, and makes in the plural *these*; *that* to the person, &c. which is at a distance, and makes in the plural *those*.

*What conscience dictates to be done,
Or warns me not to do ;
This teach me more than hell to shun,
That more than heaven pursue.**

In like manner *the one* and *the other* are used in reference to two preceding nouns or parts of a period; *the one* representing the former, *the other* the latter.—*On a fine morning in May, two bees set forward in quest of honey; the one wise and temperate, the other careless and extravagant.†*

Distributives are so called from their relation to a number of things or persons considered *singly*: *each*, *either*, and *neither*, are of this name, and have no plural.

Each

* *As all political evils derive their original from moral, these can never be removed, 'till those are first amended. Should not these have been those, and vice versa ?*

† *I told him we fed on a thousand things which operated the one contrary to each other—for, each one contrary to another—or, contrary each to other, or, one to another.*

There is a man in this country, who writes a number of letters, and for fear he should mistake the one for the other—one for another, as more than two are supposed. Even to each other and to one another, tho' of the best authority, seem not so correct, as each to other, and one to another; both analogy and reason requiring the preposition before other and another.

Each refers to several, *either* and *neither* to two taken separately.

— 'Tis by commerce that all countries enjoy the blessings peculiar to each.

— Of the two methods above, you may use either at pleasure: only take care to be perfect in that which you prefer—

Some pursue honour, others interest, you neither.

Here too perhaps not improperly may come in another sort of adjective called a *participle*.

A *Participle* is so called from *partaking* of the nature of the adjective and the verb; of the adjective in respect of its *use*; and of the verb in regard to its *time* and *signification*.

In english there are but *two* simple participles, the *active* and the *passive*: the one ends in *ing*, as *loving*; the other regularly in *ed*, as *loved*.*

This last has occasionally its *auxiliary* participle or participles preceding it;† as, *having loved*, *being loved*, and *having been loved*: which auxiliaries serve to determine both the time and voice of the compound; for *having loved* is the *perfect-present-active*; *loved*, or *being loved*, the *imperfect-*, and *having been loved* the *perfect-present passive*.

D

VERB.

* The *passive participle* is by some called the *perfect participle*, as being used likewise in the perfect tenses of the active voice.

† *Auxiliaries* are so called from the service they are of to other words in composition; thus *having*, *being*, and *having been* are auxiliaries to the participle *loved*, &c. but of these more hereafter.

V E R B.

A *verb* is that part of language which *affirms* somewhat of persons and things, *viz.* their *doing*, *suffering*, *being*; as, *I am—I write—I am instructed*, &c.

Accordingly, *verbs* from their signification are distinguished into *three* kinds, *active*, *passive* and *neuter*.

A verb *active* signifies *action*, a verb *passive* *passion*, and a verb *neuter*, neither the one nor the other; but *being*, or some *mode* or *condition* of *being*.

Verbs are also divided into *transitive* and *intransitive*, *i. e.* into such whose action *passes* to, and in some manner *affects the object*, and such whose action does *not pass*.

Active verbs are generally *transitive*; as, *The sight of distress* moves compassion: a few only excepted; as, *I walk*—*Neuters* are all *intransitive*; as, *I live*,—*I languish*.

Verbs have *time*, *number*, *personality*, and other circumstances of action, &c. to express: and this they do partly by variations in themselves, and partly by their auxiliaries, and the changes *they* suffer for that purpose.

Tenses of verbs.

The *variation* of the verb, or its auxiliary to express time, or other circumstance in which time is implied, is called *tense*.

Of

Of these *tenses* there are *seven* in number ; *three* more particularly to denote the *time* of the verb ; viz. the *present*, the *past*, and the *future* ; *three* to express *other circumstances* besides time, viz. the *imperative*, the *potential*, and the *conditional* ; the *seventh* is the verb used *indefinitely*, and called the *infinitive*.

But as we have occasion to speak of things *a-doing*, as well as *done*, &c. at every supposed time respectively, each of these tenses has a double inflection, an *imperfect* and a *perfect* inflection : consequently there is an *imperfect* and a *perfect present* tense, an *imperfect* and *perfect past*, &c.*

An *imperfect* tense denotes the time, whether present, past or future, in which any thing is *a-doing* ; a *perfect tense* denotes the time with respect to which any thing is *done* or *over*.†

Accordingly, the *present tense* is used in speaking of what is *a-doing*, and what is *done*, at this present time ; as *I am dining—I have dined*—†

D 2

The

* In this division of the tenses, into imperfect and perfect, I find I am countenanced by the learned Dr. *Samuel Clarke* :—*notandum est tempus esse omne divisum in partes tres ; præteritum, præsens, et futurum. Quorum unumquodque porro dupliciter intelligi potest, pro eo ut de re perfectâ sermo sit, aut de imperfectâ.*

Notes upon Homer ; Book I.

† *Have* and *had* mark the perfect tenses.

‡ The *present perfect* either denotes an action just over at this present time ; as, *I have answered all your arguments*

—I

The *past tense* in speaking of what was *a-doing*, and what was *done* at any supposed time past; as, *I was dining—I had dined.**

The *future tense* denotes an *intention* or *fore-sight* that we shall be *ingaged in*, and that we shall *have done* something at a future time; as, *I shall be dining—I shall have dined.*

The *imperative tense* is used in *commanding*, *praying* and *exhorting*, as, *dine—have dined—*

The *potential tense* denotes *power*, *liberty* and *possibility*; as, *I may dine—I may have dined*

The

—*I have given you my opinion freely*: or it marks a *perfect action* of any time, of which the present makes a part; as, *I have seen the king this week—I have seen him to day; but I saw him yesterday*: or it may be used in speaking of an affair, that is over *indefinitely* in respect of the present time; as, *I have been at Bath*, i. e. *some time or other*. But in whatever manner the action is considered as *over*, 'tis *over* only in relation to the *present time*, and therefore *present perfect*.

* In like manner the *past perfect* denotes what was over, in relation to some *time past*; thus, *The gentleman had dined, when I came in yesterday, &c.*

The past tenses are generally defined thus;

“ The preterimperfect tense speaketh of a thing that
“ *was doing* at some *time past*.”

“ The preter-perfect speaketh of a thing *as now done*,
“ *or lately done*.” But surely, if the preterimperfect speaks of a thing that was *doing* at some time past, the preter-perfect should speak of a thing that was *done* at some time past.

The *conditional tense* expresses some condition, inclination or obligation ; as, *I should dine,—I should have dined—*

The *infinitive tense* has the sign *to* ; as, *to dine—to have dined—*

Number and person of tenses.

As the verb varies to express time, &c. under the word *tense* ; so the *tenses* vary to express *number* and *person* ; that is to say, to correspond to the number and person of the noun or pronoun which happens to be the *subject* of the respective tense. As such subject may be of the *first*, *second*, or *third* person singular, or of the *first*, *second*, or *third* person plural ; so the verb in its several tenses (the imperative and infinitive excepted*) varies into *two numbers* and *three persons* in each number :

D 3

Thus,

* The *imperative* is generally considered as having *five* persons ; and, to shew what corresponds to the five persons in other languages, I have given the English imperative that number, tho' strictly speaking it has but *two*. What in latin are called the first person plural and the third persons singular and plural of this tense, are in English so many second persons ; for instance, what are *let him, let us, let them, write*, but do thou, or you, let, i. e. permit him, us, them to write ? Nay, if we allow a first person plural in English, we have likewise a first person singular ; for, why not *let me write* ?

*There studious let me sit,
And bold high converse with the mighty dead.*

Thus, in the simple present tense, the variation is as follows ;

Sing. <i>I love, thou lovest,</i>		Plu. <i>We love, you love,</i>
<i>he loveth,</i>		<i>they love.</i>

In the past simple tense, thus ;

Sing. <i>I loved, thou lovedst,</i>		Plu. <i>We loved, you loved,</i>
<i>he loved</i>		<i>they loved</i>

Formation of the tenses.

The *simple tenses* come from the 'root or verb itself ; thus, *I love—I loved*, &c. from the verb *to love*.

The compound tenses are made up partly of the verb and its several auxiliaries, as, *I do love,—I did love*, &c. and partly of the two participles and the helping verbs ; as *I have loved, I had loved*, &c. *I am loving, I was loving*, &c. in the active ; in the passive *I am loved, I was loved*, &c.

In order to a right use of verbs, it is necessary to be acquainted with the *root*, the *active participle*, the *past simple tense* and the *passive participle*.

The active participle is derived from the root, by adding *ing* ; * as *love—loving*.

The past tense and passive participle are derived in like manner by adding *ed* ; * as *love—loved—loved—* But there are several verbs which don't keep up to this form, in regard to the *past tense* and *passive participle*, and which ought therefore to be particularly remarked.

Of

* Except the verb end in *e* mute, in which case the *e* is not repeated, as you see in the examples.

Of this sort are, first, such whose *present* and *past simple tenses*, and *passive participle* are the same; as,

<i>Pres. t.</i>	<i>Past t.</i>	<i>Pass. p.</i>
cut	cut	cut

so likewise *let*, *put*, *cast*, *hit*, *cost*, *hurt*, *put*, *knit*, *spread*, *rid*, *set*, *shut*, *shed*, *shred*.

II^{dly}, Such, whose *past tense* and *passive participle*, are indeed the same, but *irregularly*, whether by contraction or otherwise; as,

<i>Pres. tense.</i>	<i>Past tense.</i>	<i>Pass. part.</i>
bend	bent	bent
bind	bound	bound
bleed	bled	bled
breed	bred	bred
bring	brought	brought
build	built	built
buy	bought	bought
catch	caught	caught
clothe	clad	clad
dare	durst	durst
feed	fed	fed
fight	fought	fought
find	found	found
flee	fled	fled
geld	gelt	gelt
gild	gilt	gilt
gird	girt	girt
grind	ground	ground
have	had	had
hang	hung	hung

lay

<i>Pres. t.</i>	<i>Past t.</i>	<i>Pass. part.</i>
lay	laid	laid <i>for</i> layed
lead	led	led
lend	lent	lent
make	made	made
meet	met	met
pay	paid	paid <i>for</i> payed
read	read	read
rend	rent	rent
say	saïd	saïd <i>for</i> sayed
seek	fought	fought
fell	fold	fold
send	sent	sent
shoe	shod	shod
shoot	shot	shot
speed	sped	sped
spend	spent	spent
stand	stood	stood
stick	stuck	stuck
teach	taught	taught
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
wind	wound	wound
win	won	won
work	wrought	wrought*

III^{dly}

* Some of these have likewise a regular past tense and passive participle ; as, *bended, caught, clothed, dared, gelded, gilded, girded, hanged, worked* ; from *bend, catch, clothe, dare, geld, gild, gird, hang, work*.

III^{dly}, Such, whose *past tense* and *passive participle* are different ; as,

<i>Pres. t.</i>	<i>Past t.</i>	<i>Pass. part.</i>
be	was	been
blow	blew	blown
come	came	come
do	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
fall	fell	fallen
fly	flew	flown
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
grow	grew	grown
know	knew	known
see	saw	seen
slay	slew	slain
throw	threw	thrown



which difference should be carefully observed.

But besides these, there are others which have different terms for *past tense* and *participle*, and propriety seems to require, that a like distinction be made in *their* use.* In writing, indeed it is generally observed, except in a style very familiar ; but, in
con-

* I mean in the present state of the language ; for it is not improbable, that in time the *past tense* and *passive participle* of irregular verbs (as they are now called) as well as of the regular, may be expressed by one and the same word ; and, indeed, I see no inconvenience that would arise from it.

conversation a contrary practice has been for some time gaining ground, either the *participle* usurping the place of the *past tense* ; as, in

<i>Pres. t.</i>	<i>Past t.</i>	<i>Pass. part.</i>
begin	began	begun
cling	clung	clung
fling	flung	flung
run	ran	run
sing	sang	sung
sling	slung	slung
slink	slunk	slunk
spin	span	spun
spring	sprang	sprung
sting	stang	stung
stink	stank	stunk
string	strung	strung
swim	swam	swum
swing	swang	swung
wring	wrung	wrung*

Ex. *His invocation thus begun.*

Parent of light, all seeing sun.

Or the *past tense* usurping the place of the *participle*.

<i>Pres. t.</i>	<i>Past t.</i>	<i>Pass. part.</i>
bite	bit	bitten
chide	chid	chidden
climb	clomb	climbed

choofe

* The passive participle of *cling*, *fling*, *sling*, *slink*, *string*, *wring*, have obtained so generally in the past tense as to render the analogical past tense altogether obsolete.

choofe	chofe	chofen
dig	dug	digged
drive	drove	driven
eat	ate	eaten
forfake	forfook	forfaken
freeze	froze	frozen
heave	hove	hoven
hide	hid	hidden
hold	held	holden
lie	lay	lien <i>or</i> lain
rise	rofe	risen
feethe	fod	fodden
fhake	fhook	fhaken
fhear	fhore	fhorn
fhine	fhone	fhined
fit	fat	fitten
fhide	fhid	fhidden
fhmite	fhmote	fhmitten
fhteal	fhtole	fhstolen
fhride	fhrode	fhtridden
fhrike	fhtruck	fhtricken, <i>or</i>
take	took	taken [fhtrucken
tread	trode	trodden
weave	wove	woven*

Ex.

* *Climb, dig, fhine*, have likewise a *regular* past tense.

Heave, feethe, weave, have alfo a *regular* past tense and paffive participle.

No two verbs are fo often confounded as *lie* and *lay*, occafioned by the past tense of the one, making the pre-
fent tense of the other. *The principle of religion laid at
the very foundation*, fays an eminent writer.

Ex. *An owl of grave deport and mien,
Who (like the Turk) was seldom seen,
Within a barn had chose his station,
As fit for prey and contemplation.*

Or one *common term*, which differs in part from either *past tense* or *participle*: usurping the place of both *past tense* and *participle*, as, in the following,

<i>Pref. t.</i>	<i>Past t.</i>	<i>Pass. p.</i>	<i>Com. t.</i>
bear	bare	borne	bore
bid	bade	bidden	bid
break	brake	broken	broke
cleave	clave	cloven	clove
drink	drank	drunken	drunk
get	gat	gotten	got
forget	forгат	forgotten	forgot
ride	rode	ridden	rid
shrink	shrank	shrunken	shrunк
sink	sank	funken	funk
speak	spake	spoken	spoke
spit	spat	spitten	spit
swear	sware	sworn	swore
tear	tare	torn	tore
wear	ware	worn	wore
write	wrote	written	writ

Ex. *He stretched his hand to offer more ;
The surly dog his fingers tore.*

*The manner of inflecting auxiliary verbs.**Singular.**Plural.*

TENSES.

<i>Present.</i>	I do,* thou do'st, he doth,	We do, you do, they do.
<i>Past.</i>	I did, thou did'st, he did,	We did, you did, they did.
<i>Fut.</i>	I shall, thou shalt, he shall,	We shall, you shall, they shall.
	I will, thou wilt, he will,	We will, you will, they will.
<i>Imperat.</i>	. . . Do thou, let him,	Let us, do you, let them.
<i>Poten.</i>	I may, thou may'st, he may,	We may, you may, they may.
	I can, thou can'st, he can,	We can, you can, they can.
<i>Cond.</i>	I should, thou should'st, he should,	We should, you should, they should.
	I would, thou would'st, he would,	We would, you would, they would.
	I might, thou might'st, he might	We might, you might, they might.
	I could, thou could'st, he could,	We could, you could, they could.

When the present and past tenses are used in the place of the future or conditional, they have no variation.

Singular.

Plural.

<i>Present.</i>	I do, thou do, he do,	We do, you do, they do.
<i>Past.</i>	I did, thou did, he did,	We did, you did, they did.

H A V E

* *Do* and *Have* are not only auxiliary, but likewise principal verbs; thus, *I do*,—*I have done*; *I have*,—*I have had*, &c. See *Verbs Principal*.

In familiar conversation and style, *does* is used for *doth*, *has* for *hath*, *loves* for *loveth*, &c.

You, the second person plural, is generally used in speaking even to one person; thus, *I do*, *you do*, *he doth*;—*I am*, *you are*, *he is*, &c. yet this use of *ye* would be very improper.

Shall and *will* are not used indifferently. Simply foretelling we say *shall* in the first persons, and *will* in the rest: promising and threatening, we say *will* in the first persons, and *shall* in the others.

H A V E.*

TENSES.	Singular.	Plural.
<i>Present.</i>	I have, thou hast, he hath,	We have, you have, they have.
<i>Past.</i>	I had, thou had'st, he had,	We had, you had, they had.
<i>Fut</i>	I shall have, thou shalt have, he shall have,	We shall have, you shall have, they shall have.
	I will have, thou wilt have, he will have,	We will have, you will have, they will have.
<i>Imperat.</i>	... have thou, let him have,	Let us have, have you, let them have.
<i>Poten.</i>	I may have, thou may'st have, he may have,	We may have, you may have, they may have.
	I can have, thou can'st have, he can have,	We can have, you can have, they can have.
	I should have, thou should'st have, he should have,	We should have, you should have, they should have.
<i>Con.</i>	I would have, thou would'st have, he would have,	We would have, you would have, they would have.
	I might have, thou might'st have, he might have,	We might have, you might have, they might have.
	I could have, thou could'st have, he could have,	We could have, you could have, they could have.
<i>Infinitive.</i>	To have	Present

H A V E.*

TENSES.	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
<i>Present.</i>	I have, thou hast, he hath,	We have, you have, they have.
<i>Past.</i>	I had, thou had'st, he had,	We had, you had, they had.
<i>Fut</i>	{ I shall have, thou shalt have, he shall have,	{ We shall have, you shall have, they shall have.
	{ I will have, thou wilt have, he will have,	{ We will have, you will have, they will have.
<i>Imperat.</i>	. . . have thou, let him have,	Let us have, have you, let them have.
<i>Poten.</i>	{ I may have, thou may'st have, he may have,	{ We may have, you may have, they may have.
	{ I can have, thou can'st have, he can have,	{ We can have, you can have, they can have.
<i>Con.</i>	{ I should have, thou should'st have, he should have,	{ We should have, you should have, they should have.
	{ I would have, thou would'st have, he would have,	{ We would have, you would have, they would have.
	{ I might have, thou might'st have, he might have,	{ We might have, you might have, they might have.
	{ I could have, thou could'st have, he could have,	{ We could have, you could have, they could have.
	{	{
<i>Infinitive.</i>	To have . . .	
		Present

Present and past tenses as future and conditional.

Singular.

Plural.

<i>Present.</i>	I have, thou	We have, you have,
	have, he have,	they have.
<i>Past.</i>	I had, thou had,	We had, you had, they had.
	he had,	

B E.*

Another auxiliary is the verb *to be*; which is used with the active participle in an active sense, and with the passive participle in a passive; as will be seen presently:

Sing.

* *Be* as a principal has the same inflection: It is then only an auxiliary, when it is followed by a participle.

Be and *were*, however they might be used formerly as present and past tenses, are now, I think, used with most propriety, as future and conditional; *am* and *was* as present and past.

TENSES. *Singular.**Plural.**Present* I am, thou art,
he is,We are, you are, they
are.*Past.* I was, thou wast,
he was,We were, you were,
they were.*Fut.* { I shall be, thou shalt
be, he shall be,
I will be, thou wilt
be, he will be,We shall be; you shall
be, they shall be.
We will be, you will be,
they will be.*Imperat.* . . . Be thou,
let him be,Let us be, be you, let
them be.*Pot.* { I may be, thou
may'st be, he
may be,We may be, you maybe,
they may be.{ I can be, thou
can'st be, he
can be,We can be, you can be,
they can be.{ I should be, thou
shouldst be, he
should be,We should be, you
should be, they
should be.*Cond.* { I would be, thou
wouldst be, he
would be,We would be, you
would be, they
would be.{ I might be, thou
might'st be, he
might be,We might be, you
might be, they
might be.{ I could be, thou
could'st be, he
could be,We could be, you could
be, they could be.*Infinitive.* To be*Be* and *were* are more properly used as future and
conditional, than *am* and *was*, as follow.*Present.* I be, thou be, he
be,

We be, you be, they be.

Past. I were, thou wert, he
were,We were, you were, they
were.

HAVE

Observations on the

H A V E B E E N .

TENSES.

*Singular**Plural.*

Present. I have been, thou
hast been, he hath
been,

We have been, you
have been, they have
been.

Past. I had been, thou
had'st been, he had
been,

We had been, you had
been, they had been.

Fut. { I shall have been,
thou shalt have
been, he shall, &c.

We, you, they shall
have been.

{ I will have been,
thou wilt have
been, he will &c.

We, you, they will
have been.

Imperat. . . . have been,
let him have been,

Let us have been, have
been, let them &c.

Poten. { I may have been,
thou may'st have
been, he may &c.

We, you, they may
have been.

{ I can have been,
thou can'st have
been, he can &c.

We, you, they can have
been.

{ I should have been,
thou should'st have
been, he should
have been,

We, you, they should
have been.

{ I would have been,
thou would'st have
been, he would
have been,

We, you, they would
have been.

Con. { I might have been,
thou mightest have
been, he might
have been,

We, you, they might
have been.

{ I could have been,
thou could'st have
been, he could
have been,

We, you, they could
have been.

Infinit. To have been

The present and past tenses as future and conditional.

*Singular.**Plural.*

Present. I have been, thou
have been, he have
been,

We have been, you have
been, they have
been.

Past. I had been, thou
had been, he had
been,

We had been, you had
been, they had
been.

So much for the helping or auxiliary verbs ; the variations of which once mastered, the inflection of verbs principal will be extremely easy ; for the tenses of these last, being almost wholly compound, that is to say, made up of one or more of the auxiliaries, together with the root, or one of the two participles, and suffering no change but what affects the auxiliaries, and in the very way too you have already seen ; to know the one, is in a manner to know the other.

In consideration of this, and to bring the several forms of the tenses into a more distinct view, and by that means give a clearer idea of them, I have in the following system set down only the first person of each compound tense, leaving to the reader the pleasure of supplying from memory the several variations.

Should

Should it here be asked, why the *tenses* of verbs are not ranged as usual into *moods*? It is because I would avoid, as much as may be, a distinction where there is no real difference. The more necessary division seems to be into *imperfect* and *perfect* tenses. And as the common terms are pretty much kept to, tho' applied to the tenses instead of the moods, no great inconvenience can arise from the change.†

The manner of inflecting the simple tenses of verbs active.

Imperfect tenses.

PRESENT TENSE.

Sing. I love, thou lovest, *Plu.* We love, you love,
he loveth, they love.

PAST TENSE.

Sing. I loved, thou loved'st, *Plu.* We loved, you
he loved. loved, they loved.

· · · · ·
· · · · ·

IMPERATIVE TENSE.

Sing. · · love, or love *Plu.* · · love, or love
thou · · you · ·

· · · · ·
· · · · ·
· · · · ·
· · · · ·

Infinitive. To love

The

† The English verb, says Mr. *Clarke*, has no mood at all, that is, no variation or change to signify the various dispositions or intentions of the mind, with respect to the thing signified by it. *Clarke's Grammar.*

The

The present and past tenses as future and conditional.

Present. I love, thou love, We love, you love, they
he love, love.

Past. I loved, thou We loved, you loved,
loved, he loved. they loved.

*The manner of inflecting the simple tenses of verbs
active.*

Perfect Tenses.

.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
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.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

The manner of inflecting the compound tenses of verbs active.

IMPERFECT TENSES.

Present Tense.

Sing. I do love, &c.

Past Tense.

Sing. I did love, &c.

Future Tense.

Sing. { I shall love, &c.
 { I will love, &c.

Imperative Tense.

Sing. , Do thou love, &c.

Potential Tense.

Sing. { I may love, &c.
 { I can love, &c.

Conditional Tense.

Sing. { I should love, &c.
 { I would love, &c.
 { I might love, &c.
 { I could love, &c.

Infinitive.

The future and conditional use of *do* and *did* as before in the auxiliaries.

The

The manner of inflecting the compound tenses of verbs active.

PERFECT TENSES.

Present Tense.

Sing. I have loved, &c.

Past Tense.

Sing. I had loved, &c.

Future Tense.

Sing. { I shall have loved, &c.
 { I will have loved, &c.

Imperative Tense.

Sing. . . . Have, or have thou loved, &c.

Potential Tense.

Sing. { I may have loved, &c.
 { I can have loved, &c.

Conditional Tense.

Sing. { I should have loved, &c.
 { I would have loved, &c.
 { I might have loved, &c.
 { I could have loved, &c.

Infinitive Tense.

To have loved.

The future and conditional use of *have* and *had* as before in the auxiliaries.

A second form of compound active tenses.

IMPERFECT TENSES.

Present Tense.

Sing. I am loving, &c.

Past Tense.

Sing. I was loving, &c.

Future Tense.

Sing. { I shall be loving, &c.
I will be loving, &c.

Imperative Tense.

Sing. be, or be thou loving . . .

Potential Tense.

Sing. { I may be loving, &c.
I can be loving, &c.

Conditional Tense.

Sing. { I should be loving, &c.
I would be loving, &c.
I might be loving, &c.
I could be loving, &c.

Infinitive Tense.

Sing. To be loving, &c.

The invariable use of *be* and *were*, not *am* and *was*, may be seen in the auxiliaries.

A second form of compound active tenses.

PERFECT TENSES.

Present Tense.

Sing. I have been loving, &c.

Past Tense.

Sing. I had been loving, &c.

Future Tense.

Sing. { I shall have been loving, &c.
 { I will have been loving, &c.

Imperative Tense.

Sing. Have been, or have thou been
 loving, &c.

Potential Tense.

Sing. { I may have been loving, &c.
 { I can have been loving, &c.

Conditional Tense.

Sing. { I should have been loving, &c.
 { I would have been loving, &c.
 { I might have been loving, &c.
 { I could have been loving, &c.

Infinitive Tense.

To have been loving,

The future and conditional use of *have* and *had*
as before.

The manner of inflecting the tenses of verbs passive.

IMPERFECT TENSES.

Present Tense.

Sing. I am loved, &c.

Past Tense.

Sing. I was loved, &c.

Future Tense.

Sing. { I shall be loved, &c.
 { I will be loved, &c.

Imperative Tense.

Sing. Be, or be thou loved

Potential Tense.

Sing. { I may be loved, &c.
 { I can be loved, &c.

Conditional Tense.

Sing. { I should be loved, &c.
 { I would be loved, &c.
 { I might be loved, &c.
 { I could be loved, &c,

Infinitive Tense.

To be loved

For the invariable use of *be* and *were*, see Auxiliaries.

The

The manner of inflecting the tenses of verbs passive.

PERFECT TENSES.

Present Tense.

Sing. I have been loved, &c. . . .

Past Tense.

Sing. I had been loved, &c. . . .

Future Tense.

Sing. { I shall have been loved, &c. . . .
 { I will have been loved, &c. . . .

Imperative Tense.

Sing. Have been, or have thou been
 loved, &c.

Potential Tense.

Sing. { I may have been loved, &c. . . .
 { I can have been loved, &c. . . .

Conditional Tense.

Sing. { I should have been loved, &c. . . .
 { I would have been loved, &c. . . .
 { I might have been loved, &c. . . .
 { I could have been loved, &c. . . .

Infinitive Tense.

To have been loved. . . .

For the invariable use of *have* and *had*, see
 Auxiliaries.

Here perhaps it may be said, is there no other use of the English verb, than what is comprehended in the foregoing tenses, pray, what is become of those tenses called *subjunctive* and *conjunctive*? The subjunctive or conjunctive tenses are the very same in English as those of the foregoing specimen, and only take the name of subjunctive and conjunctive, as they happen to be joined to some other verb, and to be preceded by a conjunction; thus, *Will they be ready*, when I come, when thou comest, when he cometh? &c.—*They know very well* that I came, that thou camest, that he came, &c. And in like manner through all the tenses.

But it has been said, “The present tense subjunctive,” it might have been said the past tense too “hath no personal variation.”

The present and past tenses, though subjoined, do not cease to vary as such; on the contrary, they often vary in the very manner as when they have no dependence at all on other verbs; for example, *It is generally allowed*, that I excell, that thou excellest, that he excelleth, *in speaking*.—*No answer ever came to hand*, tho’ I wrote, tho’ thou wrotest, tho’ he wrote, &c. *several times*.—*It cannot be determined with the naked eye*, whether I move, whether thou movest, whether he moveth, &c. *at this time*.

*Vain is her best precaution; tho’ she sits
Conceal’d, with folded ears, unsleeping eyes,—
In act to spring away.*

Tho’

Tho' he acknowledges seven sacraments, he expressly says, he does not esteem them all necessary to salvation.

River floating spreads,
Calm, sluggish, silent ; 'til again constrained
Between two mighty hills it bursts a way.—

In all which examples, you see, the common variations take place exactly, notwithstanding the dependence of the tenses; nay, notwithstanding their being accompanied with those very conjunctions, which have been said to govern the invariable tenses. The truth seems to be, that the present and past tenses ever vary, while they continue to signify the present and past times ; and that their variation ceaseth only when they become (not subjunctive or conjunctive) but, if I may say so, future or conditional ; that is to say, when they are used in the place of what would otherwise be expressed by the future or conditional tense. That they are thus used, a few examples will shew. *It is a matter of indifference*, whether I visit, whether thou visit, whether he visit, &c. *i. e.* *Whether I shall, thou shalt, he shall visit.* *Tho' a wise man seek to find out the works of God from the beginning to the end ; yet shall he not be able to do it.* *i. e.* *Tho' a wise man should seek, &c.* *How slowly time creeps till my Phœbe return.* *i. e.* *shall return.* *I should expect nothing from thee, tho' thou received ever so much ; for shouldst receive.* If the person we speak to, did really receive a sum of money, we should then use the past tense, as such, and the expression would

be; *I expect nothing from thee, tho' thou received'st 10,000 l. pounds; i. e. tho' thou did'st receive.*

And what has been said of verbs principal, holds likewise in respect to the helping verbs, viz. *do, did; have, had; be, were,** whether used, as such, in composition, or as principals themselves. For example; *If he do but touch the hills, they shall smoke—shall but touch.*

Tho' thou did attempt it, it would not avail.—shouldst attempt it. If the past time were meant, the past tense would then be used as such, and the phrase would be, *Tho' thou didst attempt it, it did not answer.*

Be careful in time, ere thou have spent all—shalt have spent all.

Thou certainly had done it, if thou had'st not been prevented—wouldst have done it.

If thou be here to morrow, it will do—shalt be here.

It were trifling to mention instances of private oppression—it would be trifling.

Of neuter, impersonal and defective verbs.

Verbs neuter are inflected like other verbs, with this difference only, that some are found in the active voice only; as, *to live, to seem*—others only in

* Was God to reveal a religion to mankind, tho' the revealer was divine, the religion must be human.

It ought to have been *were* in both places. Were God to reveal. i. e. Should God reveal—And tho' the revealer were, i. e. would be divine, &c.

in the passive ; as, *to be glad*—and some in both, as, *to rise, to be risen*.

The passive voice of these verbs retains its neuter signification, notwithstanding its form. For *am* and *was*, when applied to the passive participle (if I may call it so) of neuter verbs, serve only with *have* and *had*, to denote the perfect times of such verbs.

Ex.—*But now she is gone, and has left me behind.*

In this respect, neuter verbs, which have this passive form, have the advantage of other verbs in point of precision, having *am* and *was* to express an immediately-perfect time ; and *have* and *had*, to denote a perfect time indefinitely ; whereas other verbs have only *have* and *had* for both purposes.

And, by the way, this I think accounts for the words *surrexi, veni, abiit, &c.* being rendered in English, *I am risen, I am come, he is gone, &c.*

An *impersonal* is such a verb as is used in the third person singular only. It is called impersonal, because its subject is not a *person* but a *thing* ; which thing, whatever it is, is not expressed, but the pronoun *it* supplies its place ; thus, *it rains—it thunders—it seems, &c.*

The tenses of impersonals, are the same as those of other verbs.

Imperfect Tenses.

Pres. It pleaseth

Past. It pleased

Fut. It shall please

Perfect Tenses.

It hath pleased

It had pleased

It shall have pleased &c.

When

When a verb is *deficient* in tense or person, it is called *defective*. The English language has very few of this sort, besides the auxiliaries already taken notice of, except impersonals rank as such. *Must* and *ought* are the principal; the one implying *necessity*, the other *duty*. *Must* is invariable; thus, *I must, thou must, he must, &c.* *Ought* varies like other verbs in the second person singular only; thus, *I ought, thou oughtest, he ought, &c.* They are each accompanied by an infinitive tense; *I must go, I must have gone; I ought to go, I ought to have gone, &c.*

A D V E R B.

The *adverb* is applied to adjectives and verbs to express some *circumstance* relating to them. Ex. *He loved her passionately.* Here, the word *passionately* marks the *degree* of his love. *She was formerly handsome.* Here, again, *formerly* points out the time of her being so: and so in other cases.

The generality of adverbs are derived from adjectives, and may be compared by *more* and *most*; as, *shrewdly, more shrewdly, most shrewdly*; but not well by a change of termination.

Adjectives should not be used in the place of such adverbs as are derived from them. *I leave Paris, with the vexation of not receiving your letters so regular as I used to do.* The word *regular*, being here used to denote the *manner* of receiving the letters, and
not

not the *form* of the letters themselves, ought to have been *regularly*.

In like manner, in the collect for Easter-eve—
by continual *mortifying our corrupt affections*, ought to have been, by continually mortifying &c.

Yet this use of adjectives is very frequent, and I think, not unelegant in poetry, especially if applied to neuter verbs.

——— *from the bladed field the fearful hare*
Limps aukward

Hail, source of beings!
To thee I bend the knee ; to thee my thoughts
Continual climb.———

Gradual, from these what num'rous kinds descend,
Evading even the microscopic eye.

Such is the privilege of poetry.

Adverbs are very often distinguished into those of *time, place, affirmation, negation, &c.* but this perhaps may appear unnecessary. With regard to the last however, let it be remarked, that two negatives in English make a phrase affirmative. Example ; *It may not be improper*, i. e. *It may be proper*. *It is not improbable* ; i. e. *It is likely*. *You do not know* nothing, with a stress upon each negative, is equivalent to, *You are a person of knowledge, &c.* There should seem then some impropriety in a *negative use* of such phrases, as, *You cannot do nothing—No more I shan't* &c. If we would speak properly, we should rather say,
You

You can do nothing, or you cannot do any thing—And, no more I shall, or neither shall I. Nay, it may be questioned whether the following words do not defeat the intention of the author. Nor is the man, whose ambitious views are crossed, scarce ever afterwards endued with benevolence of heart. Ought it not rather to have run thus? And the man, whose ambitious views are crossed, is scarce ever afterwards endued with benevolence of heart.

CONJUNCTION.

The *conjunction* serves to connect words and sentences.

Conjunctions are distinguished into several kinds ; as *copulative, disjunctive, conditional, &c.* Ex. *We often submit to providence with reluctance, but I will do it with a good grace, and with a becoming adoration of his mercy.* Here the conjunctions are *but* and *and* ; the former of which is called *disjunctive* ; because, tho' it joins the two first parts of the period, yet it marks an opposition in the sense of what follows, to that which goes before : and *and* is called a *copulative conjunction* from its coupling the last member to the foregoing.

When several words or phrases are connected, the conjunction comes before the last word, and the last member that is in connection ; as, *We cannot sufficiently admire the wisdom, the power, and the goodness of providence. They embraced one another, they broke*

broke out into raptures, they sung Te Deum, and offered public thanks.

Some conjunctions have peculiar conjunctions to answer them in another part of the sentence :† Ex. *Tho' it were so, yet there is nobody to blame—Matters were so managed that it was impossible.—Nothing affects us so sensibly as what touches our honour, &c.*

But the proper use of these correspondent conjunctions will, I think, come of course to a reader of any attention, provided he confine his reading to such authors chiefly as are most accurate.

This seems a necessary caution to such as desire to speak or write a language well ; for, if the mind be once accustomed to any improprieties of phrase, it will not easily get rid of them ; on the contrary, they will be very apt to intrude themselves, and steal into our language in spite of rule, or any care we can take to prevent it ; nay, it is even possible, that, what is become habitual to us, may escape our nicest review. For it is in language, as in morals ; custom blinds and reconciles to what is amiss in either.

P R E-

† *That sermon was printed by itself some years ago, but could find neither purchasers or readers.*

I take notice of this want of correspondence in *neither* and *or*, as being frequently met with in books, tho', methinks 'tis as incorrect, as, either *the one* nor *the other* would be.

P R E P O S I T I O N.

The *preposition* serves to express the *relation* which one word bears to another in language. Ex. *He came by London in his way from you to me.*—*It was purchased at the expence of my brother, who gives it to you.*

This use of prepositions supplies the want of variation in the English noun, commonly called *case*, and renders such change of termination unnecessary.

I N T E R J E C T I O N.

The *Interjection* expresseth some *emotion* of the mind ; as, *Ah, what an enchanting thing is indolence!*



C O N S T R U C T I O N or S Y N T A X.

CONSTRUCTION is the *orderly putting together* of words in discourse or writing.

In order to which, we must be acquainted with what is called *concord* and *government* in language.

Concord is the *agreement* of one word with another in some one or more respects.

Government is a *kind of influence* which one part of speech seemeth to have over another, in directing its *case, tense, number, &c.*

A few rules and observations may be sufficient under each head.

The

C O N C O R D.

As to concord, the simplicity of the language, particularly, the little inflection of either the adjective or relative confines it chiefly to the noun and the verb.

I.

Two or more substantives, relating to the same idea, are in the same case.

*In folly's cup still laughs the bubble, joy——
Nor shall my verse that elder bard forget,
The gentle Spencer, fancy's pleasing son.*

II.

Several nouns pointed with commas, are in the same case.

Riches, honour, pleasure, *steal men's hearts.*

III.

Nouns are in the same case when joined by a conjunction.

You spend your time in woods and groves and solitude.

The reason of this sameness of case is, that such nouns are in the same circumstance with respect to some one part of speech.

G

IV.

IV.

The pronouns *I* and *thou* agree with the nouns they represent in number; *he, she, it*, in number and gender; *this* and *that* in number.

Yet we say *you*, tho' we speak to one person only.—We likewise say, *It is I—It is she*—and even *It is they*, &c.* It is these islands, and some of them only that furnish us with nutmegs, cinnamon, cloves, &c.

The neuter pronoun *it* is expressed as well as what it represents, as often as an infinitive, tho' the subject of the verb, takes place after it.

'Tis my ambition not to rise.

It would have been an indelible reflection upon his countrymen to have been vanquished by a small number.

V.

The adjective commonly so called, the pronoun—and the participle-adjective, suffer no change in compliment to their substantive.

Except *this* and *that* which agree in number.

That meadow, those daisies, why do they not smile?

Adjectives signifying or implying more than one,
as,

* In this we seem to have imitated the French, for they say *vous* in the singular—and *C'est moi, c'est elle, ce sont eux*, &c.

as, *two, three, four—few, many, several*—are applied to plural nouns ; †

Many men, many minds.

So we cannot in strict propriety say, *a hundred pound, year, dozen, foot, stone, load, pair, mile, &c.* but *pounds, years, &c.* yet in regard to some of these, custom seems to have given a currency.

If the number relate not to the noun, to which such words are adjective, the noun is singular notwithstanding ; as, *quadruple alliance*, where four persons are concerned,—*triple-headed monster*, &c.

Two or more ordinal numbers, coupled by *and*, require a plural substantive ; by *or*, a singular.

About the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the usurpations of the church of Rome had risen to their greatest height.—It was in the third or fourth century.

Every adjective, as such, supposeth a substantive or some part or parts of speech in the place of it.

Adjectives often become substantives.

The vast immense of space.

*Go soar with Plato to th' empyreal sphere,
To the first good, first perfect, and first fair.*



G 2

It

† *And there are many sort of persons, as well as things, in the world, which ought to be treated in the very same manner—for sorts.*

It might have been remarked before, that substantives become a kind of adjectives when joined by a hyphen; as *country-seat*, *sea-hedge-hog*, &c.

Adjectives may be joined by a hyphen, *rosy-fingered morn*—*right-angled triangle*.

What and *which* as adjectives are applied to both persons and things. *What man*—*what book*—*which lady*—*which house*.

Whose is rather an adjective than a genitive case. *Whose kindness is it?*—*Of whose goodness I am sensible*—*By whose authority was it done?*

VI.

The *relative* suffers no change in compliment to its *antecedent*.

The *relative* is either nominative case to the verb, or takes the case which the verb governs, tho' it be placed before it. *

I have seen the man who is so much talked of.

I met with the gentleman to whom you sent me.

This is not the person whom you described.

This *accusative case* of the *relative*, and the *conjunction that*, are perhaps too seldom expressed, considering

* *After the death of Francis I. a prince, whom it must be confessed was more remarkable for his gallantries and his misfortunes than for his cruelty, the execution, &c. where the relative ought to have been in the nominative—who it must be confessed, &c.*

considering their use in connecting the parts of a sentence. *It is surprizing a man should be regardless of the understanding he has to improve—for that a man—and which he has.—In the deserts they cross from Buenos-Ayres to Peru and Chili, they make use of a kind of tea—which they cross had been better.*

Every relative supposeth an antecedent substantive, or some word or phrase in the place of it, to which it refers.

Who refers to persons ; *you who—he who—the man who, &c.**

Which refers to things—*the paper which—the place which, &c.*

That refers to both. *The gentlemen that—the house that, &c.*

What implies *that which—whoever* suspected what has happened!—*Wicliff was in religion, what Bacon was in science.*

If we study clearness of expression, the *relative* should not come before the word *referred to*. The same holds with respect to the *pronoun* and its *noun*.

VII.

The verb is of the same number and person with its subject, whether noun or pronoun.†

G 3

I am

* *I desired to see Alexander after the battle of Arbela, which upon a motion of the governor's finger, immediately appeared—for who.*

† *You was*, tho' used by some writers of reputation,

is

*I am, thou art, he is, we are. &c.—I was, thou wast, or you were, &c. A child loves—children love to play.**

VIII.

If there be more subjects than one, tho' each subject be singular, the verb is plural.

Virtue and vice differ widely—You and I are happy together. Except the particle, which connects them, be of the disjunctive kind.†

Such is our pride, our folly, or our fate.

IX.

If a collective noun is the subject of a verb, the verb is singular, or plural, according as it has respect to a whole, or to the parts which compose it. *The crew save themselves by swimming—A regiment is a body of several troops of horse, or companies of foot, commanded by a Colonel.*

X.

is improper. For tho' you should be allowed to be of both numbers, *was* is not of the second person.

* *There are none of your works that I read with greater pleasure.* As *none*, i. e. *no one*, is singular, the verb, it should seem, ought to have been *is*, not *are*; but it is sufficiently authorised by custom.

† *I can by no means agree with you in thinking, that the love of fame is a passion, which either reason or religion condemn.* The verb here ought to have been singular, *Which either reason or religion*, i. e. *which either the one, or the other, condemns.*

X.

Verbs agree with the relative in the number and person of its antecedent.*

—*He directed his discourse to me, who am always ready to hear him.*

Every verb has some subject, whether it be a noun, pronoun, verb, &c. expressed or understood. †

Whatever is is right.

*What nothing earthly gives, or can destroy,
The soul's calm sun-shine, and the heartfelt joy,
Is virtue's prize :—*

Even impersonals are not without some subject : for instance ; *it becometh*, i. e. the thing *it* represents becometh, viz. some particular behaviour, dress, &c. becometh. *It* is the nominative case.

But tho' there be no personal tense without a nominative, yet there are nominatives without a personal tense, Ex. *This being premised, I proceed—*

Here

* *He considers me as the only person who am capable of comforting him.—It had been better who is ; for who refers immediately to person.*

† *The spiders touch how exquisitely fine !*

Feels at each thread, and lives along the line.—

As *touch* cannot be said to *feel* at each thread and *live* ; and the construction will not allow us to suppose *spider* as the nominative, the passage is inaccurate.

Here, the word *this* is not the subject of any verb ; but is *put absolutely* as grammarians are wont to say.

Verbs consider, if I may say so, all nominatives whether persons or things, as of the third person ; *I* and *thou*, *we* and *ye* excepted. The word *one*, so common in conversation, representing a person indefinitely, is considered as such, tho' we often speak of ourselves under this term.

The subject (if a pronoun) and its auxiliary verb, are frequently suppressed, when the sense is clear without them.*

It is said, she preserved his army from destruction, when reduced to two and twenty thousand men, i. e. When it was reduced.

We come now to an animal of such a magnitude and strength, as if not attested by authors of unquestioned veracity, we should not have ventured to describe or mention,——if it had not been attested, &c.

The subject and the verb are very often separated both in speaking and writing, especially by the relative sentence, and must be brought together by the reflection of the reader and hearer ; thus, *An Author, who has raised the attention of the public, and gained*

* Conciseness may be too much affected. *The condor of Peru measures fifteen or sixteen feet from the end of one wing to the other ; i. e. one would think, to the other wing : But the writer's meaning is, from the end of the one wing to that of the other.*

gained a whole nation for his audience, may be considered—

It is the same with regard to other parts of speech; such as the *auxiliary* and its *verb* or *participle*; the *preposition* and its *pronoun*; the *relative* and its *antecedent*, &c. which it may suffice to have hinted.

Care however should be taken in composing, that the relation these several terms bear each to other, be clear and evident to the understanding of the reader.

G O V E R N M E N T.

Government is a kind of influence which one word seemeth to have over another in directing its *case*, *tenſe*, *number*, &c.

With respect to this part of syntax, all I intend is only a few useful hints. The relations of words to one another, as they are expressed by the several prepositions, are so various, that they cannot easily be reduced to rule, but must in a great measure be left to observation, after all the direction that can be given.

Yet it will be some recommendation of a few rules, if they may be considered only as a mean of directing our attention to what is the most approved usage in language; if they may be regarded only as opening the view to what ought to be made familiar by reading, observation and practice.

Of

Of the government of substantives,

Or how the relations of one substantive to another are expressed.

I.

The most common relation of one substantive to another is expressed by the genitive. *The fall of man.*

II.

Other words besides nouns, such as participles, and even a member of a sentence, may be in the same circumstance with respect to a preceding noun.

Cesar had an opportunity of reconnoitring the enemy.
We are never in so much danger of being surprised,
as when we think ourselves safe.

There was a cry of long live the king.

III.

This relation is likewise expressed by *s* with an apostrophe before nouns and participles. *

Order is heaven's first law.——

Upon the gentleman's coming in, the lady retired.

Some

* The former substantive is frequently understood.
The tail of the armadillo is long like a rat's—that is to say,
a rat's tail.

*Some authors mention its being discovered in a very extraordinary manner. **

IV.

When several words are dependent, the possessive ending is applied to the last term.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland's Herod.

Her Majesty the Queen of England's palace.

V.

Where personal possession is not implied, except the dependent noun be in the genitive, the two nouns are united.

The gardens of Kew, or Kew-gardens; Signet-office,

* Phrases like the following (it has been said) tho' very common, are improper; "much depends upon the rule's being observed, and error will be the consequence of it's being neglected." But, where is the impropriety of such phrases, if they are approved by the best writers? what but the established usage of such writers is the *lex & norma loquendi*?—Nor is it so very extraordinary in language, to find one part of speech stand in the place of another; does not Latin, Greek, French, &c. admit of it? why not English?—It will appear hereafter that participles are used as substantives, or verbal nouns, in all relations.

office, Westminster-bridge, &c. nay, even Marlborough-house, Northumberland-house, &c. but the Dutcheſs of Marlborough's, the Earl of Northumberland's house ; as coming under Rule III.

VI.

Sometimes the dependent ſubſtantive may with equal propriety be changed into an adjective. *A cup of gold,—a golden cup. A perſon of diſcretion,—a diſcreet perſon, &c.*

VII.

The pronoun *that*, representing a former ſubſtantive, governs the ſame caſe as the noun it represents.

The hyacinth is of various ſizes, from that of a hempſeed, to that of a nutmeg.

The complexions of the Chineſe women are better than thoſe of the men, as they ſeldom go abroad.—

Befides this common relation of two ſubſtantives not in *appoſition*, others there are as various as the prepoſitions by which they are expreſſed ; thus, *a ſlave to buſineſs,—a genius for poetry,—a ſkill in muſic,—a diſſertation on prophecy,—a lawyer by profeſſion, &c. which can only be learnt by experience.*

Of the Government of Adjectives.

I.

The adjectives *worthy, unworthy, capable, incapable, guilty, innocent, full, void, proud, expressive, &c.* govern a genitive. *

—Proud of an easy conquest *all along*
She but removes weak passions for the strong—

II.

Such adjectives as signify *number* or a *part* govern likewise a genitive.

Some of the finest compositions *among the ancients are in allegory.*

First of your kind! *Society divine!—*

But happy they! the happiest of their kind.
Whom gentler stars unite—

H

III.

* The preposition is frequently understood.

A reflection this made by a comic writer, but not unworthy the most serious—of the most serious.

Indeed, the confinement of poetical compositions accustoms us so much to suppressions of little words, that we seem in danger of losing the particles out of our language.

III.

Adjectives govern a dative of the noun to which any thing is *related, acquired, or attributed.*†

*Respecting man, whatever wrong we call,
May, must be right, as relative to all.*

IV.

The adjectives *long, broad, thick, deep, high, old, distant,* govern an accusative.

The wall at the bottom is at least twelve feet high.

The flying bridge in China consists of one single arch, five hundred cubits high, and four hundred long.

The Chinese historians pretend that the empire of China is forty thousand years old.

V.

The adjectives *rich, diligent, conversant, &c.* govern an ablative expressed by *in*.

Rocks rich in gems.——A man conversant in business.

The

† *There are still a few, who like thou and I, drink nothing but water.*——The author would scarce have fallen into this mistake, if he had attended to the preposition which is understood: propriety requires *like thee and me.*

The adjectives *free, distant, averse, exempt, different, &c.* an ablative expressed by *from*.*

Free from sorrow, free from strife,—

How many miles is Bath distant from Bristol?

Adjectives govern an ablative of the *cause, instrument, manner, means*, expressed by *with, by, &c.*

*Amidst the dreadful vale the chiefs advance,
All pale with rage.*

VI.

Such adjectives as govern a *dative* of nouns generally govern an *infinitive* of verbs.

If the charge upon us be just, we should consider how to get clear of it; and not who are liable to the censure of the world, and to be reproached, as well as ourselves.

VII.

Such adjectives, as govern *other cases* of nouns,
H 2 govern

* Our English poet, by not attending to the particular expression of his author, has given us a picture of a very different kind than what Homer intended.

But surely *different than* is as extraordinary as *other from* would be.

govern like *cases of participles* in the form of nouns. *

——— *All that we are capable of knowing in our present state, appears either immediately to regard its wants, or to be connected with what regards them*———

VIII.

A noun, following *than* in comparison, is not governed by the adjective (as in Latin) but is in the case the verb requires, which verb is often understood.

You are more studious than I ; i. e. than I am.

I had rather you came than she ; i. e. than that she should come ; her therefore would be improper.

I had rather have you come than her ; i. e. than her to come ; therefore she would be improper : and thus the case is found by filling up the ellipsis.

A noun, following *as* in comparison, takes its case in the same manner.

This lofty building was not erected for such diminutive animals as you or I ; i. e. as you or I am.

Com-

* What is said in the 6th and 7th rules of the government of *adjectives*, might likewise have been observed as generally true of *substantives*.

Comparatives in *or*, adopted from the Latin, govern a dative.

There is another river in South America, little inferior to the former——

IX.

The *participle-adjective* has the same government, as the verb from which it is derived.

It will be my happiness to see you every day forming yourself for public life.

The prince died suspected of being poisoned by a zealot against heresy——

It has the same government in the form of a *gerund*, or *verbal noun*, whether active or passive.

Mr. B. acts wisely by considering every thing in its proper light.

The best argument will fall short of its effect, by being attended with a spiritless expression.

X.

Active participles, in the form of nouns, take the *articles* and *government* of nouns.

There is something at the opening of the dawn at this season of the year——

Yet both the *article* and *preposition* are sometimes, perhaps, better supposed than expressed.

This, my lord, is making (as you see) the most I can of my project, and setting off my amusements with the best colour I am able—rather than, This, my lord, is a making (as you see) of the most I can of my project, and a setting off of my amusements with the best colour I am able.

Of the government of verbs.

I.

Verbs *intransitive* have a nominative on both sides *.

I thought 'twas the spring but alas! it was she.

——— *To enjoy is to obey.*

The proper study of mankind is man.

If *neuters*, as such, seem to govern an accusative, some preposition is understood.

It happened the other day, i. e. on the other day.

It continued seven weeks, i. e. for seven weeks.

Neuter

* *It is him I am to congratulate; for he—i. e. he whom I am to congratulate.*

Neuter verbs, in the service of the poets, frequently become transitive, and that elegantly.

*Flush'd by the spirit of the genial year,
Now from the virgin's cheek a fresher bloom
Shoots, lefs and lefs, the live carnation round;
Her lips blush deeper sweets;——*

Verbs passive have an ablative of the agent.

*The mariner's compass was invented by an Italian,
and improved by the English.*

II.

Verbs *transitive* govern an accusative of the object. *

*One morn I miss'd him on the custom'd hill,
Along the heath, and near his fav'rite tree :——*

The verb used *indefinitely* is frequently such object.

*Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife;
Their sober wishes never learnt to stray,*

So

* *Let thou and I, the battle try, &c.*

If *let* can properly be applied to *thou* and *I*, as being equivalent to *us*, it ought to have been *thee* and *me*, in spite of the rhyme.

So is a member of a sentence. *

I have heard that you have a way of giving an agreeable turn to the most trifling things.

Transitive verbs govern others cases besides that of the object.

The verbs *acquit, apprise, convince, inform, &c.* govern a genitive.

You cannot convince him of his error.

What was said of adjectives governing a dative of the noun to which any thing is *related, attributed, or acquired*, holds with respect to verbs. †

For thee *the graces lead the dancing hours.*——

after

* What I had to say of gold and silver, *as both are found, and the latter in vast quantities, in Mexico, I thought it proper, for the sake of avoiding repetitions, to bring them under this head*——Here, very improperly, are two objects to the same verb, *bring*; what I had to say of gold and silver, and *them*, the representative of gold and silver: the latter had been better omitted.

† The preposition is frequently suppressed;

——*Then give humility a coach and fix*—— to *humility*.

—— to their proper operation *still*,
 Ascribe *all good*; to their improper, *ill*.

What was said of the *cause, instrument, &c.* after adjectives, holds likewise with respect to verbs.

Tho' you do not convince me by your argument, yet you charm me with your eloquence.

How one Verb governs another.

I.

Some verbs govern an immediate infinitive *.

And who but wishes to invert the laws——

Others govern an accusative before it.

Tell me, if virtue made the son expire——

Others

* *But as low as philosophy is reduced; if morals be allowed belonging to her, politicks must undoubtedly be hers——*

It should be, *to belong*, without all doubt.

They, who were not in circumstances to refuse confirming present, were little likely to take effectual measures against future usurpations.

It should have been *to confirm*; or if *confirming* be considered as a noun, the article and preposition had been better expressed; viz. *the confirming of*.

Others are followed by the conjunction *that*, and a finite tense.

————— *but who infers from hence,*
That *such* are happier, *shocks all common sense.*

The suppression of the preposition in the infinitive, and of the conjunction before the finite tense, were better avoided, when either makes the construction less intelligible. *He repeated the experiment, several times, and found it have the same effect ; for to have.*

We should hardly say, *I thought it was her*; if at first sight *it* did not appear to be in the accusative after *thought*, as it would be in Latin without a conjunction: propriety requires, *I thought it was she*; i. e. that *it was she*.

II.

As *neuters* are intransitive, they govern an infinitive denoting the *end* only, which construction may be varied by *that* and the potential.

People go thither to have the benefit of the waters, or that they may have.

III.

Verbs indefinitely used are sometimes put absolutely.

To speak my opinion in one word; *I would have*
the

the Gods in full possession of allegorical and burlesque poems.

IV.

The verb *be* is accompanied with infinitives of both voices, and even with its own infinitive, in a peculiar manner. *

I am to go,— I was to have gone, &c. I am to teach,— I was to have taught, &c. I am to be,— I was to have been, &c.

Of the government of adverbs.

Adverbs govern the same case as the adjectives from whence they are derived.

I should not act agreeably to his intention, if—

Of the government of conjunctions.

I.

Conjunctions couple like cases expressed or understood.

Shells in general make a very curious part of natural history, on account of their great variety, the uncouth make of some, and the beautiful colours and pretty

* Such infinitives after the verb *be* correspond to the future participles of the latin.

pretty ornaments of others. Where *variety, make, colours* and *ornaments* are all in the genitive, tho' the preposition is not repeated.

I am at your service, and your brothers at all times ; i. e. your brother's service : so the connection is betwixt *service* and *service*.

II.

Verbs thus conjoined are of different tenses, if they are intended to express different times.

He came *to day*, and will return *to-morrow*.

III.

Where the time is the same, if the former verb be compound, the latter is so too ; and tho' the auxiliary may be left out, it must be supposed. *

Doth he not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and *go*, (not goeth) i. e. and *doth he not go* ?

IV.

Where different tenses of the same verb are conjoined

* *It is the custom in some countries to condemn the characters of those after death, that have neither planted a tree, nor begat a child.* It ought to have been *begotten*, as having the same auxiliary with *planted*.
—*Then did they spit upon him, and buffeted him ;—*
rather buffet him.

conjoined, if the former be compound, the latter should be so too, that the verb may correspond to both auxiliaries.

There may possibly, but there seldom does happen; rather than, there may possibly, but there seldom happens, any occasion to fill up vallies with trees or otherwise.

V.

Conjunctions generally govern a *finite tense*; but *as*, instead of *that*, an *infinitive*.

— *And when he was so spent that he was not able to sit upon his horse*—or, *when he was so spent as not to be able, &c.*

Again,—*In its course, it receives several considerable rivers, and sometimes swells to such a height, that it overflows the country on each side;—or, to such a height as to overflow, &c.*

Of the government of prepositions.

I.

All prepositions govern the oblique ending of substantives.

This appears from such pronouns as have an accusative different from the nominative.

He was sitting by me, at the time you sent to him.

I

When

When therefore such pronouns as vary their ending, happen to be separated from the preposition, which marks their relation, care should be taken to give them their right termination.

Who shall I give it to? Who did you send it *by?* and the like, are very common; yet if you apply the preposition to the relative, you would say, to *whom* and by *whom*.

Such exactness may not, perhaps, be thought necessary in conversation, but in writing it is hardly dispensed with.

II.

The word governed by the preposition is not always expressed.

This brings to my mind a reason I have often sought for—that is, *a reason which I have often sought for*, or, *for which I have often sought*.

It climbs very nimbly in pursuit of birds, a prey it is extremely fond of—i. e. *of which it is extremely fond*.

III.

Not only nouns and pronouns, but even a sentence may be governed by a preposition.

But where is the advocate for “favour yourself, “since all things are uncertain.”

Upon

Upon the whole, words of the same origin have a different government, according as they are of this or that part of speech.

Men pursue pleasure to excess,——pursuant to, in pursuance of, your advice.

The peculiar Use of Participles in English.

The use of the participles must in some degree have appeared in the foregoing pages ; but, as I think they are of more general use than is commonly imagined, I shall place their various construction in one view.

1st. then ; participles are used as *adjectives* to substantives.

Most authors agree that this gum is of a warming, drying, discussing, dissolving and purifying nature—

The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed—

—He smiled to see the philosopher thus employed.

—This affair being known.

2. As *substantives* to adjectives.

Do you censure my plain eating ?

I see no reason for your being afflicted.

3. As *former substantives*.

If the building of a house be so expensive— And even with the article and preposition understood :

If building a house be so expensive. In the latter case, the verbal noun seems to retain the government of the verb.—As to the article and preposition in the use of these two forms, it seems best to use both or suppress both, rather than say, *if the building a church*, or, *if building of a church* *.

4. As *latter substantives*.

He had an opportunity of surveying a large extent both of sea and land.

He was in danger of being starved to death.

5. As *substantives after adjectives*.

You are incapable of relishing such pleasure.

——*afraid of being punished.*

6. As *substantives before and after verbs*.

The painting is none of the least beauties of the porcelane——

——*But this is anticipating the affairs of the council.*——

You

* ——*Religion, alas ! is every where abused to the obstructing the proper effects of this belief.*——

Analogy requires it should be *the obstructing of the proper effects of this belief.*

You are very complaisant to conclude that the being admired would be the consequence of my being known.

If the porcelane be large, they defer opening the furnace, in which it is baked, for two or three days.

If they have the good fortune to escape being crushed, or rather perhaps, the being crushed by the foot of man or beast——

Lastly, as substantives after prepositions.

The rules of decorum may restrain me from proceeding on the subject of your personal worth——

Strange, you should forget after having been told so often.

Before we conclude this head, it may be proper to add, to what has been said of *concord* and *government*, something with respect to the *placing* of words in construction. And, it is evident, I think, upon the least enquiry, that the *parts governing* naturally take place of the *parts governed*; thus, *A vein of good sense runs thro' all his writings; but their distinguishing characteristics are simplicity and piety.*——Accordingly, the nominative case comes before, the accusative after, the verb transitive; Ex.

—————*His speaking eye*
Express'd the secret triumphs of his soul——
 and so of the rest.

But this order is by no means necessary, provided we take care to avoid obscurity in transposing. The *licence* of poetry breaks in upon this order very much; and even the *correctness* of prose admits of it under the restriction now mentioned. In some few cases it is necessary;

1st. In asking questions; as,

And, art thou, then, Acasto's dear remains?

2dly. In commanding and intreating; as,

—————Instruct her, thou,
To mark the varied movements of the heart,——

3dly. When the phrase begins with *here* or *there*; as,

There is no end of his greatness.

We find it likewise in *conditional phrases*; such as, *had he——were it otherwise——Oh! knew he but his happiness——, &c.*



P R O N U N C I A T I O N.

Pronunciation is the uttering of articulate sounds or words in the most intelligible manner.

In reading and speaking, every syllable should have its proper *sound*, every word its proper *accent*, and every sentence its due *emphasis* and *pause*.

The

The *sounds* of the letters have been already considered.

Accent and Quantity.

Accent, properly speaking, is the *raising* or *falling* of the voice in the pronunciation of a syllable.

Quantity is the *measure* of a syllable considered as long or short.

The one has respect to *tone*, the other to *time* in speaking.

Accents have been generally distinguished into acute ´, grave ` , and circumflex ^ ; the first of which is said to raise, the second to depress, and the last both to raise and depress, the syllable, over which they are, or are supposed.

But what, I think, we generally mean by *accent*, is a *force* or *stress* laid upon such syllable or syllables, as, if marked at all, would be acuted ; as, upon *ac* in *accent* the noun, and upon *cent* in *accent* the verb. And, as the syllables we thus raise, we at the same time lengthen by our manner of pronouncing them, hence it is, that quantity and accent have been so frequently confounded.

Emphasis.

Emphasis is to a sentence, what *accent* is to a word ; that is to say, a stress laid upon a particular *term* or *clause* of a sentence, as *accent* is upon a particular *syllable* or *syllables* in a word.

To

To discern the particular term or member, which ought to be thus distinguished, is a principal point in reading. If, in reading to ourselves, we mistake the emphatical word, we mistake of course the intention of the writer; and if to others, we necessarily confound our hearers.

This force should be placed in reading, in the manner we naturally place it in speaking; *i. e.* on such word or part of a period, as claims our more particular attention.—*Do I not shine upon thee, said the moon, I am very sure, that I intend it.*—*Shrewdly was it said by an ingenious writer, A courtier's dependent is a beggar's dog.*

For the same reason it falls properly upon words contrasted. Remember that thou in thy life-time receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things, but now, he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

The inconvenience of not knowing, or not observing, emphasis will appear from the following passage.—*Not that which entereth in at the mouth defileth a man, but that which cometh out of the mouth, that defileth the man.*

Here the word *that*, emphatically used, means *that which cometh out of the mouth*; but if no stress is laid upon it, it becomes a relative, and refers you to the word *mouth*, contrary to the sense of the passage.

Pointing

Pointing.

Pointing is the placing of certain points, or marks, after words in construction, for a direction to the reader, where, and how long, to rest, so as in the easiest manner to take up the sense of what he reads, and at some of the greater pauses to take breath likewise.

The common marks for this purpose are the *comma* (,) *semicolon* (;) *colon* (:) and *period* (.)

The *comma* distinguisheth the *least parts* of a period, and requires no variation of voice, but what accent or emphasis may occasion. Ex. *Genius, virtue, and reputation, three great friends, agree to travel over the island of Great Britain, to see whatever might be worthy of observation.*

The *semicolon* takes in *parts a little more distinct*; yet, as it leaves the mind in suspense and expectation, the voice may be sustained as before. Ex. *I say unto one, go, and he goeth; and to another, come, and he cometh; and to my servant, do this, and he doth it.*

The *colon* marks a *perfect member*; where the sense is intire, but the sentence not finished. Here a little fall of the voice may not be improper. Ex. *Great painters not only give us landscapes of gardens, groves, and meadows, but very often employ their pencils upon sea-pieces: I wish you would follow their example.*

The

The *period* takes place, where the sense is intire, and the sentence finished : and here the voice *must* fall. Ex. *In short, she is so good a christian, that whatever falls to herself, is a trial ; and whatever happens to her neighbours, is a judgment.*

As to the *quantity* or *time* of those pauses, it depends in some measure on the nature of the subject, and partly upon the readers manner ; but their *proportion* one to another may, I think, be pretty nearly adjusted, and seems to be as follows, viz.

Comma is to semicolon, as 1 is to 2

Semicolon to colon, — as 2 is to 3

Colon to period, — as 3 is to 4

After all, the constructive parts of periods are so unequal, and so varied, and the points to mark those differences so few, that a great deal must be left to every man's particular taste. It will not, I believe, be very easy to find two persons, that shall agree exactly in the pointing of a single page ; and yet some knowledge of punctuation is necessary, in order to make ones self understood in writing.

What seems a very easy, and perhaps as good a way as any, to gain a competent skill in the matter, is to get some book recommended, which comes nearest to truth in this particular, and now and then to transcribe from it, attending to nothing all the while, but to write your transcript with

with exactness ; and when you have finished your task, to shut the book, and point it as well as you can ; and, if you understand what you have written, and reflect in what manner you would pause, were you to speak it, you will have no great difficulty. This done, compare your work with the original and correct your pointing by it.

To see the necessity of some knowledge of punctuation, however arbitrary it may seem ; only think of a person beginning a chapter of the *Revelation* in this manner : “ *And there appeared a great wonder in heaven, a woman* ”——whereas, the wonder was, that a woman should be *cloathed with the sun*, &c.

To see the effect of negligence, or rather whim, in punctuation, I shall take the liberty to transcribe a passage from a very ingenious writer, whom I have had occasion to quote already : It is as follows :

—“ Was there virtue enough in the world to
 “ make a general stand against this contradiction,—
 “ that is,—was every one who deserved to be ill-
 “ spoken of,—sure to be ill-looked on——too ; was
 “ it a certain consequence of the loss of a man’s
 “ character,—to lose his friends,—to lose the
 “ advantages of his birth and fortune,—and
 “ thenceforth be universally shunned, universally
 “ flighted.——

“ W

“ Was no quality a shelter against the indecorums of the other sex, but was every woman without distinction,—who had justly forfeited her reputation,—from that moment was she sure to forfeit likewise all claim to civility and respect.—

“ Or in a word,—could it be established as a law in our ceremonial,—that wherever characters in either sex were become notorious,—it should be deemed infamous either to pay or receive a visit from them, and that the door shut against them in all public places, till they had satisfied the world by giving testimony of a better life.—A few such plain and honest maxims faithfully put in practice,—would force us upon some degree of reformation.”

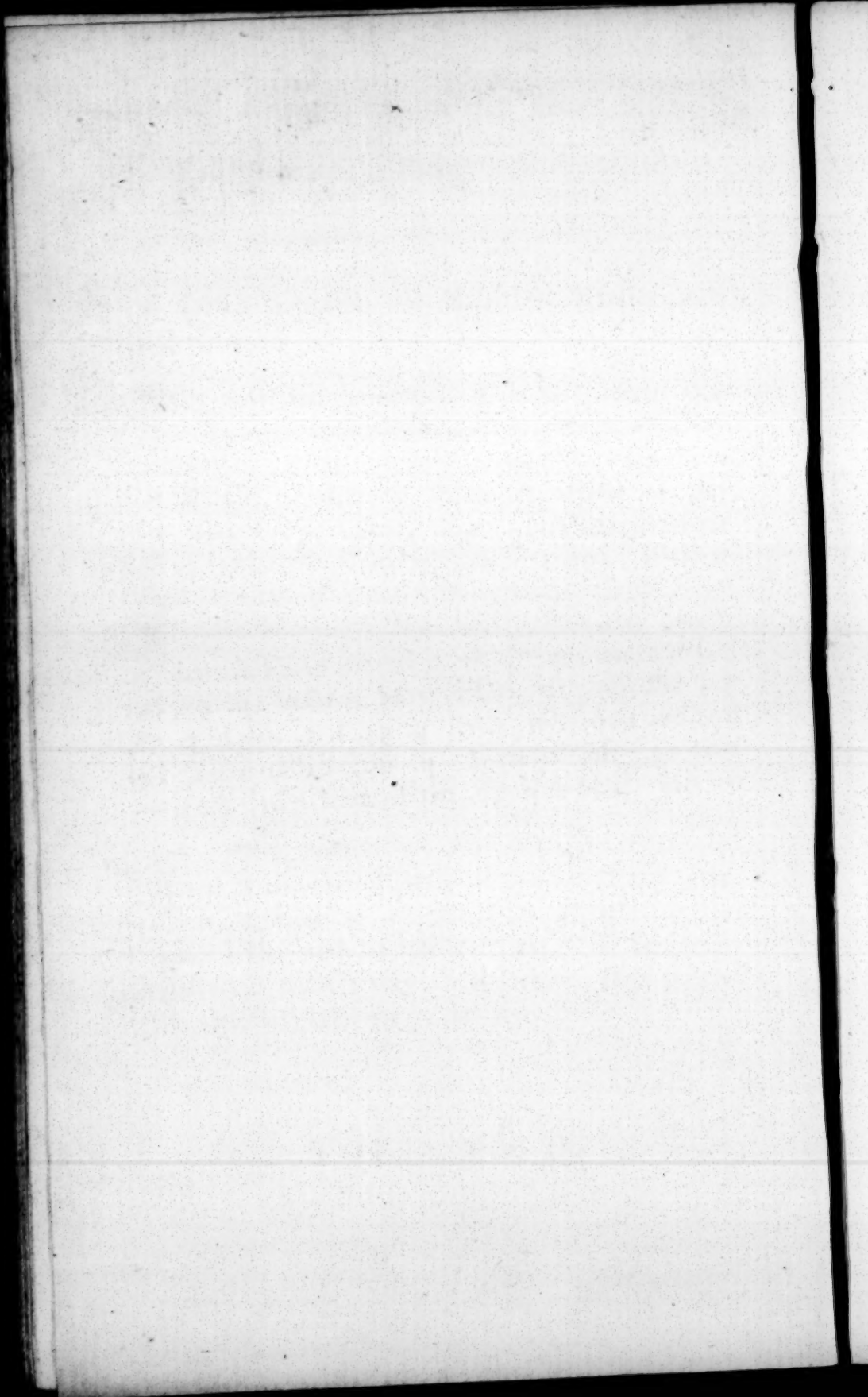
Without being nice in remarks upon this transcript, may I ask, if any person at first reading would imagine, that “ Was there virtue enough, &c.—Was no quality, &c.—Or in a word,—could it be established, &c.—had any connection in sense or construction with, “ A few such plain and honest maxims,” if they may be called so ? ’Tis pity such sermons should have made their appearance in an undress !

T H E E N D.



E R R A T A.

Page 16, line 7, *for* *erserved*, *read* *reserved*. p. 34, last line, *for* *ender*, *read* *render*. p. 48, last line but two, *dele*, &c. p. 54, l. 2, *dele* l. p. 58, line 22, the *repeated*. p. 60, catch-word, *The* for *Con*. and at p. 80, catch-word *after*, for —.



G. E. T.